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THE HINDU

INDIA'S NATIONAL NEWSPAPER SINCE 1878

TUESDAY, MAY 17, 2022

BENGALURU
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Octogenarian IPFT chief Debbarma returns as Minister in Tripura
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DGCA issues notice to IndiGo over denial of boarding
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Ties with Pakistan 'a priority', says China's Premier Li Keqiang
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Shardul, Marsh help Capitals move into the top four
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NEARBY

Festive atmosphere welcomes students back

BENGALURU

It was a scene that had multiple disruptions in the last two years, but on Monday, many schools wore a festive atmosphere as they welcomed students back. After 35 days of summer vacation, all schools, reopened for the academic year of 2022-23.

BENGALURU ▸ PAGE 3

Unabated rain leads to waterlogged streets

BENGALURU

The pre-monsoon showers continued in Bengaluru on Monday as moderate rainfall lashed the city in the second half of the day. By evening, many roads within the Central Business District and other parts of the city were waterlogged, which also led to traffic snarls at many places during the peak hour.

BENGALURU ▸ PAGE 3

Horatti resigns as Council Chairman, MLC

BENGALURU

Bringing an end to his decades-long association with the Janata Parivar, Chairman of the Karnataka Legislative Council Basavaraj Horatti on Monday tendered resignation to the post as well to his membership from the Council.

KARNATAKA ▸ PAGE 4

Stronger India-Nepal ties a must to face emerging challenges, says PM

In Lumbini, Modi refers to the common cultural heritage of the two countries

KALLOL BHATTACHERJEE
NEW DELHI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday referred to the common cultural heritage of India and Nepal, and said the Nepalese people were "equally happy" that a temple for Lord Ram was under construction in Ayodhya.

Addressing a gathering in Lumbini, where he spoke about the commonalities of faith and traditions of both sides, Mr. Modi said stronger friendship between the two countries was necessary to deal with the challenges emerging before the world.

"I had said in Janakpur that 'Without Nepal, our Lord Ram is also incomplete.' I am aware that people of Nepal are feeling equally happy as an elegant temple for Lord Shri Ram is being built in India," Mr. Modi said in the speech to mark the 2,566th Buddha Jayanti.

Heritage links: Prime Minister Narendra Modi at the foundation stone laying ceremony of a Buddhist centre in Lumbini, Nepal, on Monday. • PTI

'Spiritual experience'

He praised Nepal for preserving its ancient culture and civilisation, and said, "Visiting Nepal is not a political matter for me, It gives me a spiritual experience."

He had referred to the common links between the two sides during his visit to Janakpur in May 2018 when he had described Nepal as the abode of Lord Ram's consort Sita.

Speaking in Nepali, Mr. Modi said, "India-Nepal relation is as strong and as ancient as the Himalayas."

He spent a day and offered prayers in Lumbini, regarded as the birthplace of Prince Siddhartha, who became the Buddha. Mr. Modi was welcomed at the airport by Prime Minister Sher Bahadur Deuba and his spouse, Arzu Rana Deuba.

Soon after arriving in Lumbini, Mr. Modi worshipped at the Mayadevi temple, which is revered as the precise place of birth of the Buddha. Next, he along with Prime Minister Deuba performed the *shilanyas* to launch the construction of the India International Centre for Buddhist Culture and Heritage in the Lumbini Monastic Zone. "Once completed, the centre will be a world-class facility welcoming pilgrims and tourists from all over the world to enjoy the essence of spiritual aspects of Buddhism," the External Affairs Ministry said in a statement.

CONTINUED ON ▸ PAGE 8

Part of mosque sealed on claim of *Linga* find

Varanasi court gives order after survey; SC hearing today

OMAR RASHID
LUCKNOW

A local court in Varanasi on Monday ordered that a portion of the Gyanvapi Mosque premises be sealed after lawyers representing five Hindu women petitioners claimed that a *Shivling* was found in the ablution water tank of the mosque on the concluding day of a video inspection led by a court commissioner.

The caretakers of the mosque, however, said it was not a *Shivling* but part of a stone fountain in the *wazu khana* (ablution tank) of the mosque. They said they would file an objection to the civil court's order and challenge in a higher court the "one-sided" sealing of a portion of the mosque premises.

The Supreme Court is scheduled to hear on Tuesday the plea of the management of the mosque against the survey. A Bench of Justices D.Y. Chandrachud and P.S. Narasimha would be hearing the plea of the Committee of Management Anjuman Intezamia Masjid, which manages the affairs of mosque. The written order, passed on Friday by a Bench headed by Chief Justice N.V. Ramana, had ordered the listing of the plea before a Bench headed by Justice Chandrachud.

In force: The police stand guard during the video survey at the Gyanvapi Mosque complex in Varanasi on Monday. • PTI

The court commissioner appointed by a civil judge is mandated to submit a report on Tuesday. The inspection sessions lasted for 135 hours over three days, officials said.

After the inspection, Hari Shankar Jain, a lawyer for the Hindu petitioners, submitted an application in the court of the civil judge (senior division) Ravi Kumar Diwakar claiming that a *Shivling* was found.

Stating that it was an "important piece of evidence", Mr. Jain demanded that the area be sealed off and entry prohibited.

Judge Diwakar admitted the application and directed District Magistrate of Varanasi Kaushal Raj Sharma to seal the area immediately and prohibit entry of all persons. The court also directed the official, the CRPF commandant and the Police Commissioner to protect and secure the sealed area.

While Vishnu Jain, another lawyer for the petitioners, claimed that a *Shivling* measuring 12 feet by 4 feet in diameter and three feet deep was found at the ablution tank, his colleague Subash Nandan Chaturvedi said the court commissioner had got the water of the tank drained. "There we found all the evidence we had claimed. The symbols of Hindu religion and culture were found on those premises," Mr. Chaturvedi told presspersons.

CONTINUED ON ▸ PAGE 8
ANOTHER REPORT ▸ PAGE 9

Sweden too makes NATO bid official, says entering 'new era'

PM makes announcement, a day after Finland did so

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
STOCKHOLM

Sweden on Monday officially announced it will apply for NATO membership as a deterrent against Russian aggression, entering a "new era" as it reverses two centuries of military non-alignment.

"The government has decided to inform NATO that Sweden wants to become a member of the alliance," Prime Minister Magdalena Andersson told presspersons a day after neighbouring Finland made a similar announcement.

"We are leaving one era and beginning another," Ms. Andersson said of the dramatic turnaround of her country's position less than three months after Russia's invasion of Ukraine.

Sweden's PM Magdalena Andersson at a press meet in Stockholm on Monday.

Sweden and Finland have both expressed a desire to act in lockstep on NATO membership. They are expected to submit their applications jointly this week.

Russian President Vladimir Putin on Monday warned that NATO's expansion may trigger a response from Moscow. The expansion poses "no direct threat for us... but the expansion of military infrastructure to these territories will certainly provoke our response," Mr. Putin said during a televised summit meeting of the Collective Security Treaty Organisation, a Moscow-led military alliance.

Ms. Andersson acknowledged Sweden would be "vulnerable" in the interim period before its application is ratified. However, Stockholm had received security assurances from several key partners, including the U.S., and Britain, she added.

She expected "it shouldn't take more than a year" for the alliance's 30 members to unanimously ratify Sweden's membership application.

Pratap Reddy is new city police chief

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

Pratap Reddy

The State government on Monday transferred city Police Commissioner Kamal Pant, replacing him with C.H. Pratap Reddy, who was serving as Additional Director-General of Police (Law and Order).

Mr. Pant has been posted as Director-General of Police, (Recruitment), relieving R. Hitendra from his concurrent charges.

The post of the Bengaluru Police Commissioner is of ADGP rank, and Pant is the second DGP-rank officer to head the city police after Ajay Kumar Singh, who was the city Police Commissioner in 2005 after his elevation to the DGP post.

CONTINUED ON ▸ PAGE 5

Christian leaders urge Governor not to give assent to anti-conversion Ordinance

They term the govt. decision 'arbitrary, fallacious, and illogical'

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

A delegation of Christian religious leaders met Governor Thaawarchand Gehlot on Monday and appealed to him not give assent to the Karnataka Protection of Right to Freedom of Religion Ordinance.

The leaders told the Governor that the entire Christian community in Karnataka opposed the proposed legislation, which is also known as anti-conversion Bill, and questioned the need for such an exercise when sufficient laws and court directives were in place to monitor any violation. Referring to the Fundamental Rights enshrined in Article 25 and Article 26, the delegation said that introducing such laws would infringe on the rights of citizens, especially of the minority community.

Christian religious leaders handing over the letter of appeal to Governor Thaawarchand Gehlot at Raj Bhavan in Bengaluru on Monday. • SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

The delegation said that the Backward Classes and Minorities Welfare Department had earlier ordered a survey of official and unofficial Christian missionaries, institutions and establishments in the State. "When all the relevant data is already available, why do we need yet another futile exercise? Why only Christians are being targeted and marked for this arbitrary, fallacious and illogical move? What is the motive that is driving them to do?" they wondered.

In the memorandum, the delegation said that it was indeed a matter of great concern that the anti-conversion Bill would become a tool for the fringe elements to take law into their own hands and vitiate the atmosphere with provocations, false accusations, and triggering communal unrest in the otherwise peaceful State.

CONTINUED ON ▸ PAGE 4

THE HINDU

Text & Context

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NEWS IN NUMBERS

CNG price hike

2 In ₹, the amount by which the price of CNG was hiked in the national capital, the 12th increase in rates in just over two months. CNG, in Delhi, now costs ₹73.61 per kg, up from ₹71.61 per kg. In all, the CNG price has risen by ₹17.6 per kg during this period. This includes a ₹7.50 per kg hike in the month of April alone. In the last one year, prices have increased by ₹30.21 per kg or 60%, according to data compiled by *PTI*. However, the rates of gas piped to household kitchens, called piped natural gas (PNG), remain unchanged at ₹45.86 per scm. PTI

Increase in lending rates

10 In basis points (0.1%) by which the country's largest lender State Bank of India has raised its marginal cost of funds-based lending rate, a move that will lead to an increase in EMIs for borrowers. This is the second hike in a month, raising the cost by 0.2% with the two consecutive increases. The central bank hiked the repo rate — at which it lends short-term money to banks — by 0.40% to 4.40%. The lending rate revision by the State Bank of India is likely to be followed by other banks in days to come. PTI

Crackdown on Uyghurs

4 In %, the number of people who have been sentenced to prison on terrorism-related charges in a Uyghur county of China. This is the highest known imprisonment rate in the world. A list obtained and partially verified by the Associated Press cites the names of more than 10,000 Uyghurs sent to prison in just Konasheher county alone, one of the dozens in southern Xinjiang. Konasheher county's imprisonment rate is more than ten times higher than that of the United States, one of the world's leading jailers, according to Department of Justice statistics. AP

Fragile truce in Yemen

6 The number of years after which the first commercial flight took off from Yemen's rebel-held capital on Monday as a part of a truce in the county's grinding civil war. The flight is part of the U.N.-brokered, 60-day truce agreement that the internationally-recognised government and the Houthi rebels struck last month. The truce accord calls for two commercial flights a week to and from Sanaa to Jordan and Egypt. The closure of the airport has inflicted major economic and humanitarian damage — thousands of people lost their jobs. AP

War impact on inflation

59 The % of accelerated inflation which can be attributed to the impact of the geopolitical conflict triggered by the Ukraine war, according to economists at SBI. The headline number touched 7.8% for April, and the RBI is set to hike rates by another 0.75%, they added. Using February as the base case, the study revealed that because of the war, food and beverages, fuel and transport contributed 52% of the increase, while 7% impact came from the jump in input prices for the fast-moving consumer goods (FMCG) sector. PTI

COMPILED BY THE HINDU DATA TEAM

EXPLAINER

The repo rate in India

How does the repo rate work? How does it affect the country's inflation and what are the factors that influence its efficacy?

THE GIST

- The repo rate is the fixed interest rate at which RBI provides overnight liquidity to banks against the collateral of government and other approved securities under the liquidity adjustment facility (LAF).
- The repo rate system allows central banks to control the money supply within economies by increasing or decreasing the availability of funds.
- It also functions as a monetary tool by helping to regulate the availability of liquidity or funds in the banking system.

SURESH SESHADRI

The story so far: On May 4, the Reserve Bank of India, in a surprise move, announced that the bank's Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) had held an 'off-cycle' meeting at which it had decided unanimously to raise the "policy repo rate by 40 basis points to 4.40%, with immediate effect". Citing 'inflation that was rising alarmingly and spreading fast' globally, amid geopolitical tensions, RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das said that the MPC had judged that the 'inflation outlook warranted an appropriate and timely response through resolute and calibrated steps to ensure that the second-round effects of supply side shocks on the economy were contained and long-term inflation expectations were kept firmly anchored'. Mr. Das added that the RBI's monetary policy response would help preserve macro-financial stability amid increasing volatility in financial markets.

RBI's monetary policy response would help preserve macro-financial stability amid increasing volatility in financial markets

What is the repo rate?

The repo rate is one of several direct and indirect instruments that are used by the RBI for implementing monetary policy. Specifically, the RBI defines the repo rate as the fixed interest rate at which it provides overnight liquidity to banks against the collateral of government and other approved securities under the liquidity adjustment facility (LAF). In other words, when banks have short-term requirements for funds, they can place government securities that they hold with the central bank and borrow money against these securities at the repo rate. Since this is the rate of interest that the RBI charges commercial banks such as State Bank of India and ICICI Bank when it lends them money, it serves as a key benchmark for the lenders to in turn price the loans they offer to their borrowers.

Why is the repo rate such a crucial monetary tool?

According to Investopedia, when government central banks repurchase securities from commercial lenders, they do so at a discounted rate that is known as the repo rate.

The repo rate system allows central banks to control the money supply within economies by increasing or decreasing the availability of funds.

How does the repo rate work?

Besides the direct loan pricing relationship, the repo rate also functions as a monetary tool by helping to regulate the availability of liquidity or funds in the banking system. For instance, when the repo rate is decreased, banks may find an incentive to sell securities back to the government in return for cash. This increases the money supply available to the general economy. Conversely, when the repo rate is increased, lenders would end up thinking twice before borrowing from the central bank at the repo window thus, reducing the availability of money supply in the economy.

Since inflation is, in large measure, caused by more money chasing the same quantity of goods and services available in an economy, central banks tend to target regulation of money supply as a means to slow inflation.

What impact can a repo rate change have on inflation?

Inflation can broadly be: mainly demand driven price gains, or a result of supply side factors that in turn push up the costs of inputs used by producers of goods and providers of services, thus spurring inflation, or most often caused by a combination of both demand and supply side pressures.

Changes to the repo rate to influence interest rates and the availability of money supply primarily work only on the demand side by making credit more expensive and savings more attractive and therefore dissuading consumption. However, they do little to address the supply side factors, be it the high price of commodities such as crude oil or metals or imported food items such as edible oils.

What other factors influence the repo rate's efficacy?

There is also another aspect to consider. Repo rate increases impact the real economy with a lag. In February 2021, the RBI in its annual 'Report on Currency and Finance' observed that "the challenge for an efficient operating procedure [of monetary policy] is to minimise the transmission lag from changes in the policy rate to the operating target", which in this case is the mandate to keep medium-term inflation anchored at 4%, and bound within a tolerance range of 2% to 6%.

The RBI noted in the report that there were several channels of transmission, "the interest rate channel; the credit or bank lending channel; the exchange rate channel operating through relative prices of tradables and non-tradables; the asset price channel impacting wealth/income accruing from holdings of financial assets; and the expectations channel encapsulating the perceptions of households and businesses on the state of the economy and its outlook'.

"These conduits of transmission intertwine and operate in conjunction and are difficult to disentangle," the central bank added, underscoring the challenges monetary authorities face in ensuring that changes to the repo rate actually help in achieving the policy objective.

EXPLAINER

Chief of Defence Staff and top-level military reforms

What is the key role of CDS? Why is the government looking to streamline the post and the functions of the Department of Military Affairs?

DINAKAR PERI

It's now over five months since the country's first Chief of Defence Staff (CDS) General Bipin Rawat was killed in a chopper crash in the Nilgris in Tamil Nadu along with his wife and 12 other military personnel onboard. The Government is yet to announce a successor to the country's top military post. The reason for the delay, official sources say, is because the Government is reassessing the concept of the post as well as the Department of Military Affairs (DMA) and is looking to streamline the setup.

What is the role of the Chief of Defence Staff?

The Government's decision in 2019 to create the post of a CDS, a long-pending demand to bring in tri-service synergy and integration, is the biggest top-level military reform since independence.

In December 2019, the Union Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi had given approval to create the post of CDS in the rank of a four-star General with salary and perquisites equivalent to a Service Chief and then Army Chief Gen. Rawat was appointed to the post.

The CDS would is also the Principal Military Adviser to the Defence Minister and Permanent Chairman Chiefs of Staff Committee (CoSC).

In addition, the DMA was created as the fifth department in the Ministry of Defence (MoD) with the CDS functioning as its Secretary.

The broad mandate of the CDS includes bringing about jointness in "operations, logistics, transport, training, support services, communications, repairs and maintenance of the three Services, within three years of the first CDS assuming office."

He will act as the Principal Military Adviser to Defence Minister on all tri-Services matters. However, the three Chiefs will continue to advise the Defence Minister on matters exclusively concerning their respective Services," a Government statement had said while adding that the CDS will not exercise any military command, including over the three Service Chiefs.

The CDS is also meant to bring about synergy and optimise procurements, training and logistics and facilitate restructuring of military commands for optimal utilisation of resources by bringing about jointness in operations, including through establishment of joint/theatre commands. The CDS will also evaluate plans "for 'Out of Area Contingencies', as well other contingencies such as Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR)," officials had stated. The specialised tri-service divisions – special operations, defence cyber and defence space – were also brought under the ambit of the CDS.

Interestingly, while capital procurements are still with the DoD, the prioritisation is with the CDS. In the last three years, the Government had also announced a series of measures to cut down on defence imports and promote indigenous defence manufacturing.

Why the rethink?

Official sources said that with the experience of the last few years of having a CDS, there is a rethink that the appointment of a CDS in itself wasn't enough and there are several issues with respect to roles and responsibilities, issues of equivalence among others. "This made the Government pause, look back and reassess the entire reform process," one official said on condition of anonymity. There is also dichotomy in the roles and responsibilities with the several hats worn by the CDS and also overlap in responsibilities between the DMA and DoD, officials stated while also adding that there is also a rethink on the ambitious timelines set for the creation of theatre commands and also the number of commands and their envisaged format.

While several options are being looked at, one of the ways to go forward would be to have a CDS with operational powers who will after due legislative changes have theatre commanders report to him while the Service Chiefs will look after the raise, train and sustain functions of respective Services, an official said. In this direction, it is being looked at if the Chief of Integrated Defence Staff to the Chairman, Chiefs of Staff Committee (CISC) can function as the Secretary DMA reporting directly to the CDS.

What has been the progress on theatre commands?

An ambitious agenda was set for the first CDS to reorganise the Indian armed forces into integrated theatre commands, which would be the biggest reorganisation of the military in 75 years and fundamentally change the way the three services operate together. Extensive studies were carried out by the Vice Chiefs of three Services on the theatre commands – land-based Western and Eastern theatre commands, maritime theatre command and an integrated air defence command. Gen. Rawat had stated that the Army's Northern Command would be left out of the ambit for now and integrated at a later stage.

However, differences continue to remain on certain aspects with the Air Force having some reservations with regard to the air defence command and the naming and rotation of the theatre commands among others. Additional studies were ordered, which are currently underway but the overall process has stalled in the absence of a CDS and continued differences.

THE GIST

- In December 2019, the Union Cabinet had given approval to create the post of CDS in the rank of a four-star General and then Army Chief Gen Rawat was appointed for the post.
- The mandate of the CDS includes bringing about jointness in "operations, logistics, transport, training, support services, communications, repairs and maintenance of the three Services, within three years of the first CDS assuming office."
- There is now a dichotomy in the roles and responsibilities with the several hats worn by the CDS and also overlap in responsibilities between the DMA and DoD

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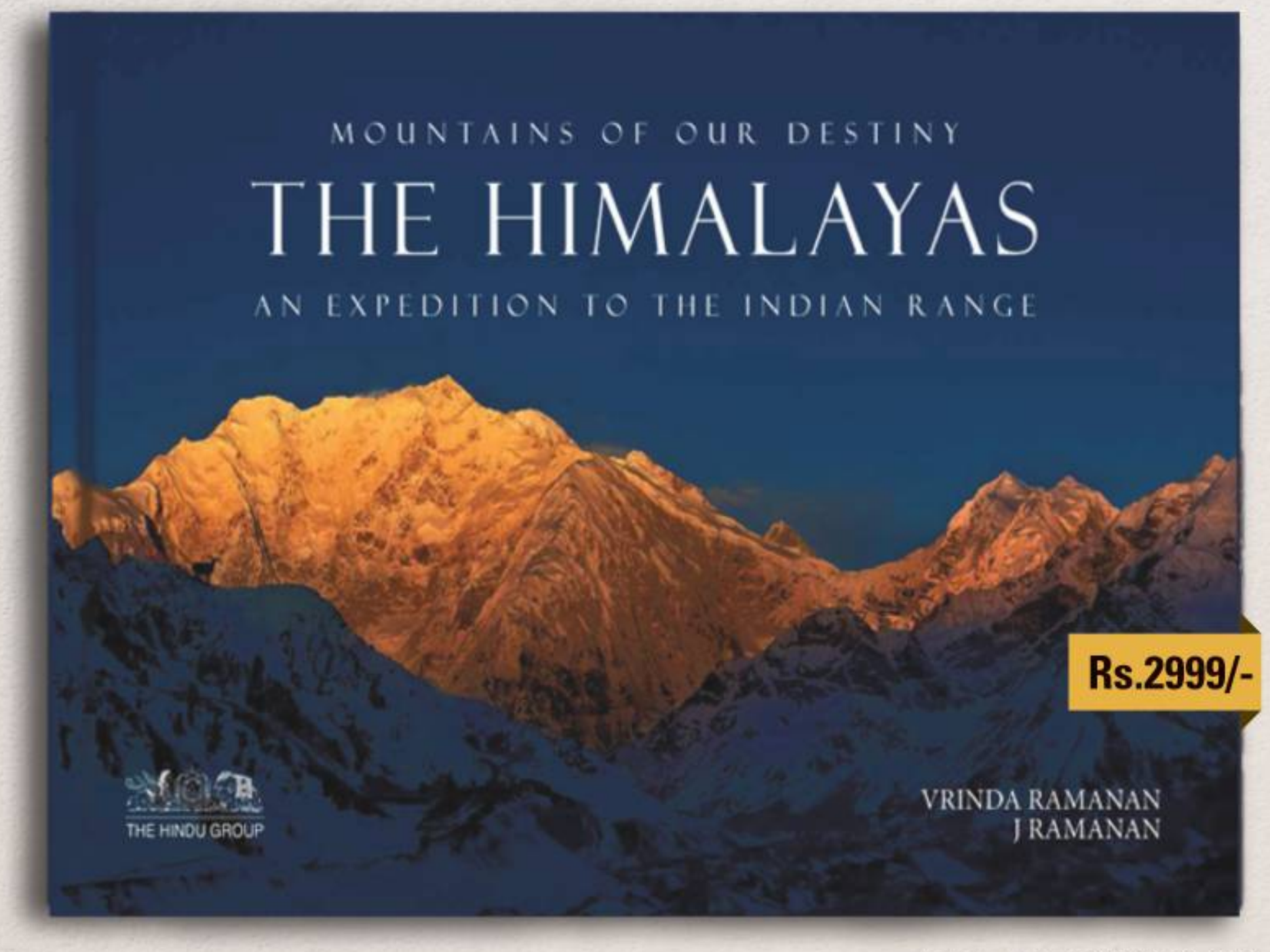
MOUNTAINS OF OUR DESTINY

THE HIMALAYAS

AN EXPEDITION TO THE INDIAN RANGE



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BANGALORE DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

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OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER BANGALORE DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY, BANGALORE

Preliminary Notification No. BDA/SLAO-2/182/2021-2022 Date: 18.04.2022

NOTIFICATION UNDER SECTION 17(1) & (3) OF BDA ACT 1976

Whereas it appears to the Bangalore Development Authority, that the lands specified in the schedule hereto likely to be needed for the purpose of Integration of "Peripheral Ring Road Part-1 (PRR-1) "Nice Integration Tumkur Road" several survey numbers of Madavara, Srikantapura, Thotadaguddadahalli, Kuduregere, Thammenahalli of Dasanapura Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk".

The Urban Development Department, Government of Karnataka in its order ನಂ. ನಅಇ/136/ಬೆಂಬೃಪ್ರಾ/2022 Dated: 13/04/2022 has given approval for publication of Preliminary Notification under the Bangalore Development Authority Act 1976/17 (1) & (3) for publication in Government Gazette.

Notice to that effect is hereby given to all whom it may concern in accordance with the provisions of sub section (1) & (3) of section 17 of the Bangalore Development Authority Act 1976 (Karnataka act no 12 of 1976). In accordance with section 36 of Bangalore Development Authority Act, The Special Land Acquisition Officer-2 (PRR-1), Bangalore Development Authority, Bangalore, his staff and workmen are hereby authorized to exercise the powers conferred under section 4(2) of Land Acquisition Act 1894. Any person/s interested in this land may prefer his/her objections within 30 days from the date of publication of this notification to the Special Land Acquisition Officer-2 (PRR-1), Bangalore Development Authority, Bangalore.

All the persons interested in the said lands are hereby warned not to obstruct or interfere with any persons employed upon the said lands for the purpose of said Acquisition, any contracts or the disposal of the said lands by Sale, Mortgage, Assignment, Exchange or otherwise or any other out-lay of improvements made there-in without sanction of the Deputy Commissioner (Land Acquisition), Bangalore Development Authority, Bangalore-560020, after the date of publication of this notification will under section 24 (clause seven) of the Land Acquisition Act 1894, be disregarded by the officer, assessing compensation for such part of the said lands as may be finally acquired.

The particulars of the scheme, the map of the area, Comprised therein and the statement specifying the lands which it is proposed to be acquired may be seen in the Office of the Special Land Acquisition Officer-2 (PRR-1), Bangalore Development Authority, Bangalore during the Office hours on all working days.

List of land required for NICE INTEGRATION (TUMKUR ROAD)

Sl. No.	Name of the Kathedars/ Anubhavadars. Smts./Sriyuths	Sy. No.	Hissa	Whether/ Dry/ Wet/ Garden	Total Extent		Kharab Land		Remaining Extent		Assessment	Extent Proposed for Acquisition		Bounded by			
					A	G	A	G	A	G	Rs.Ps	A	G	East	West	North	South
1	2	3	4	5	6		7		8		9	10		11	12	13	14
Village : Madavara Hobli: Dasanapura Taluk : Bangalore North																	
1	B.M.V Mayanna s/o Maranna, K.I.A.D.B	45	182	-	3	26	0	0	3	26	0.00	0	39.25	Remaining extent	Remaining extent	Srikantapura Gadi	Sy. No. 45/1B3
2	B.M.V Mayanna s/o Maranna, K.I.A.D.B	45	183	-	2	7	0	22	1	25	2.08	0	31	Remaining extent	Remaining extent	Sy. No. 45/1B2	Sy. No.44
				Total Ext.	**5**	**33**	**0**	**22**	**5**	**11**		**1**	**30.25**				
Village: Srikantapura Hobli: Dasanapura Taluk: Bangalore North																	
1	B.M.Ramanna s/o B.M.Mayanna, Nandhi economic corridor enterprises	34	1	Dry	0	25	0	0	0	25	0.94	0	22.5	Sy. No. 34/2	Sy. No. 35	Sy. No. 37	Madavara Gadi
2	B.S.Bhairaiah s/o Thimmakka	34	2	Dry	1	32	0	0	1	32	2.69	0	19.25	Remaining extent	Sy. No.34/1	Sy. No. 37	Madavara Gadi
3	Nandi economic corridor enterprises	35	1 TO 12	-	6	20	0	0	6	20	9.69	1	39	Sy. No. 37	Madavara Gadi	Sy .No 36/5, 36/11, 36/12, 36/8, 36/9, 36/10	Sy. No. 45
4	Mariyappa s/o Nanjappa, T.Vasudeva, Nandhi economic corridor enterprises, Nandhi economic corridor enterprises	36	2, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12	-	2	6	0	1	2	5	2.73	1	2	Sy. No. 37	Remaining extent	Sy. No. 38	Sy. No. 36/7, 36/8, 36/9, 36/10
5	Ganganarasaiah s/o Marihonnaish, Ramakka w/o Chikkamariyappa, Honnappa s/o Doddamariyappa, Chikkahonnappa s/o Narasappa, Shivashankar s/o Late Nanjappa, C.Nagaraju s/o late Chikkamariyappa, Muniyamma w/o late Marinanjappa, Narasimhamurthy.M s/o late Marinanjappa, Ravikumar.M s/o late Marinanjappa	37	1	-	2	28	0	2	2	26	3.4	0	0.25	Remaining extent	Sy. No.36	Sy. No. 37/2B & 37/2A	Sy. No. 37/3
6	B.L.Devamma w/o Lingareddy, T.Rajagopal s/o late T.Thimmappa, T.Rajagopal s/o late Thimmappa, Lakkanna s/o late Karithimmaiah	37	2A	-	2	28	0	1	2	27	3.41	0	22.5	Remaining extent	Sy. No. 36	Sy. No. 38	Sy. No. 37/2B & 37/1
7	Lakkanna s/o Thimmappa, T.Rajagopal s/o late T.Thimmappa,	37	2B	-	0	13	0	0	0	13	0.43	0	12.5	Sy. No. 37/2A	Sy. No. 36	Sy. No. 37/2A	Sy. No. 37/1
8	Gangappa s/o Marigangaiah	37	3	-	2	19	0	1	2	18	3.14	0	18.5	Remaining extent	Sy. No. 36	Sy. No. 37/1	Sy. No. 34
9	B.L.Devamma w/o Lingareddy.G	38		Dry/ Wet	3	5	0	0	3	5	4.98	2	29.5	Remaining extent of Sy. No. 39, 40, 38	Remaining extent	Halla	Sy. No. 36, 37
10	Ganganarasaiah s/o Marihonnaiah, Chikkahonnappa s/o Narasappa, H.Ramanna s/o Honnappa, H.Narasimhamurthy.M s/o Honnappa, H.Muniraju s/o Honnappa, C.Honnappa s/o late Chikkamariyappa, C.Nagaraju s/o late Chikkamariyappa, muniyamma w/o mari nanjappa narasimamurthy.m bin late marinanjappa, ravikumar.m bin late marinanjappa, shivshankamanjappa.	39		-	1	1	0	0	1	0.1	5.91	0	22	Remaining extent	Sy. No. 38	Sy. No. 40, 41	Sy. No. 38
11	Garudappa s/o Nanjundappa, G.Honnappa s/o N.Garudappa, G.Narasimhaiah s/o N.Garudappa, G.Muniyappa s/o N.Garudappa, G.Ramakrushna s/o N.Garudappa,	40		-	0	30	0	0	0	30	4.96	0	30.25	Sy. No. 41	Sy. No. 38	Sy. No. 42	Sy. No. 39
12	G. honnappa s/o Gangappa	41		-	0	18	0	0	0	18	2.92	0	6.5	Remaining extent	Sy. No. 40	Sy. No. 42	Sy. No. 39
				Total Ext.	**24**	**25**	**0**	**5**	**24**	**19**		**9**	**24.8**				
Village: Thotadaguddahalli Hobli: Dasanapura Taluk: Bangalore North																	
1	Puttamma s/o Dyavanna, Narasamma w/o Thimmaiah, Hanumanthappa s/o Thimmaiah, Munirajappa s/o Thimmaiah, Venkatamma w/o late Narayana, D.Nagaraj s/o late Dyavanna, D.Umesh s/o late Dyavanna, D.Raju s/o late Dyavanna, D.Nagaraj s/o late Dyavanna	74	1	-	2	4.5	0	10	1	34.5		0	20.5	Remaining extent	Sy. No. 76	Sy. No. 74/2	Sy. No. 75
2		74	2	Dry	3	12.5	0	0	3	12.5		0		Remaining extent	Sy. No. 76	Sy. No.77	Sy. No. 74/1
3	KIADB	75	1	Dry	7	24	0	0	7	24	7.3	3	12.25	Sy. No. 75/1	Sy. No. Gadi and halla	Sy. No. 75/2	Halla and Srikanta pura gadi
4	KIADB, KIADB	75	2	Dry	3	23	0	0	3	23	3.44	1	7.25	Remaining extent	Remaining extent	Sy. No. 76	Sy. No. 75/1
5	KIADB, KIADB, KIADB	76	1	Dry	3	19	0	0	3	19	3.34	1	12.5	Sy. No. 74	Remaining extent	Sy. No. 77	Sy. No. 76/2
6	KIADB	76	2	Dry	4	0.25	0	0	4	0.3	3.92	2	7.25	Sy. No. 74	Remaining extent	Sy. No. 76/1	Sy. No. 75
7	Ramaiah s/o Nagaiah Achepalya, Mukhesh kumar s/o S.C.Guptha, munisanjeenappa s/o late Doddaramaiah URF Ramaiah, ramachandrappa s/o late Doddaramaiah URF Ramaiah, narayana s/o late doddaramaiah, URF Ramaiah	77	1A	Dry/ Wet	5	0	0	0	5	0	4.25	1	30.75	Remaining extent	Remaining extent	Sy. No. 78	Sy. No. 77/1B
8	Mukhesh kumar s/o S.C.Guptha	77	1B	-	3	0	0	0	3	0	2.55	1	25.25	Remaining extent	Remaining extent	Sy. No. 77/1 A	Sy. No. 76/2
9	Jayarammana s/o Bajappa, jayarammana s/o Bajappa, ,jayaramman s/o Bajappa, Sidda Byrappa s/o Siddaramaiah, jayalakshmi w/o late B.N. narayana, Avinash .N s/o late B.N narayana , naveen .N s/o late B.N narayana, jayalakshmi w/o late B.N. narayana, Avianash.n s/o late B.N narayana, naveen.n s/o late b n narayana , jayalakshmi w/o late B.N narayana , Aviansh.N s/o late B.N narayana, naveen, N s/o late B.N narayana, jayalakshmi w/o late B.N narayana, Avinash n s/o late B.N narayana, Naveen .N s/o late B.N narayana,Puttanna s/o Sidramaiah, Chodappa s/o Sidramaiah, Hanumanthappa s/o Sidramaiah.	78	1 TO 4	-	5	4.5	0	5	4	39 08	3.83	3	9.5	Remaining extent Sy. No. 78/2, Sy. No. 78/3	Remaining extent Sy. No. 78/3, Sy. No. 78/4, Sy. No. 78/1	Sy. No. 81, Sy. No. 78/1, Sy. No.78/1	Sy. No. 78/2, 78/3, 78/4, Sy.No. 77 Sy.No. 77 Sy.No. 77
10	M.K.Ravi s/o Kuttappan Nair, M.K.Hanumaiah s/o Venkatappa	81	1A		2	16	0	0	2	16	2.54	1	29.75	Remaining extent	Remaining extent	Sy. No. 81/1 B	Sy.No 81/2
11	Govindaraju s/o M(G) Chikkappa, B.R.Ramachandrappa	81	1B	Dry	1	35	0	0	1	35	2	1	18.5	Sy No. 83	Remaining extent	Sy No.83, 84	Sy No. 81/1A
12	Krishnappa -late Gangappa, mariappa- late Gangappa,Rajamma late Ganagapp, Renukkama -late Hanumatharayappa, Anandamma URF Amujamma- late Gangappa	81	2, 4	Dry	2	6	0	0.3	2	3	0.87, 1.33	1	3.5	Sy. No 81/2, Thota gudalli Gadi	Kuderegere Village Boundry	Sy no. 81/1 A	Sy no. 81/3A
13	Thimmaiah s/o Araledibbada Muniyappa, G. manjunath s/o Ganganarasiah, s/o Thimmaiah, M..G. Raju s/o Ganganarasiah, Sanjay. M.T s/o late Thimmrayappa	81	3A	-	3	19	0	20	2	39	3.16	1	7.5	Remaining extent	Remaining extent	Sy No. 81/2	Sy No. 81/3B
14	Rangappa s/o Muddaiah, Ballappa s/o Muddaiah, Hanumaiah s/o Muddaiah	81	3B	Wet	3	14	0	5	3	0.9	3.43	1	4	Remaining extent	Remaining extent	Sy No. 81/3 A	Sy No. 78
15	Venkatesh .R s/o B.R Ramachandrappa	82	2A	-	2	25	0	0.2	2	23	3.66	0	14.5	82/2A Part	81/1B	83/5	81/1A
16	Venkatesh.R s/o B.R Ramachandrapp	83	1	-	4	12	0	0.8	4	4	5.66	0	20	Remaining extent	Sy. No. 81	Sy. No. 104	Sy. No. 83/5
17	Venkatesh.R s/o B.R Ramachandrapp	83	5	-	2	25	0	0	2	25	3.63	0	22.5	Sy. No. 83/5	Sy. No. 81	Sy. No. 83/1	Sy. No. 82
18	K.I.A.D.B	84	-	-	6	0.5	0	0	6	0.5	0	4	12.5	Remaining extent	Remaining extent	Sy. No. 95	Sy. No. 81
19	R.Vijayalakshmi w/o L.Bhaktharastala-Bhu.pa	92	-	Dry	3	26	0	0	3	26	5.44	2	17.75	Remaining extent	Remaining extent	Tammenahalli gadi	Sy. No. 95 & 84
20	Muthu.K.S alias Muthu Ramaswamy Bhu.pa	95	-	-	2	0	0	0	2	0	2.98	1	36.5	Sy. No. 92	Remaining extent	Sy. No. 92	Sy. No.84
21	Venkatesh.R s/o B.R Ramachandrappa	104	-	-	2	0	0	0	2	0	2.98	0	6.75	Remaining extent	Sy. No. 84	Sy. No. 84	Sy. No. 83
22	NALA	NA/ LA	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	32.5	NALA	NALA	75/1 (Tot adagadd adahalli)	38, 48, 42,43 (Srikantpura)
				Total Ext.	**73**	**26**	**1**	**1.3**	**72**	**4.8**		**32**	**31.5**				
Village : Kuduregere Hobli: Dasanapura Taluk: Bangalore North																	
1	Govt Land (BMTC), Narasamma late Narayappa	7	-	-	8	0.1	0	0	8	0.1	0.75	0	3.5	Totada gudda dahalli	Remaining extent	Totada gudda dahalli	Totada gudda dahalli
				Total Ext.	**8**	**0.1**	**0**	**0**	**8**	**0.1**		**0**	**3.5**				
Village: Thammenahalli Hobli: Dasanapura Taluk : Bangalore North																	
1	Pillaiah s/o Erappa	23	1	Wet	0	4	0	0	0	4	0.15	0	14	Remaining extent	Sy. No. 25 & 26	Halla	Remaining extent
2	Venkatesh s/o Nallappa H.N.Shivanjaiah s/o late Nanjaiah Mohan Naiak s/o Manjappa	24	1	Wet	2	25	0	0.02	2	23	2.5	3	14.75	Remaining extent	Remaining extent & Sy. No. 24/2	Sy. No.25	Totada guddada halli gadi
3	K.R Prasad s/o late K.V Revanna	25	1	Dry	1	0.2	0	0	1	0.2	1.57	0	39	Sy. No. 23	Sy. No. 25/2	Sy. No. 26	Sy. No. 24
4	Mohan Nayak s/o Manjappa	25	2	-	1	24	0	0	1	24	3.39	0	37.5	Sy. No. 25/1	Remaining extent	Sy. No. 26	Sy. No. 24
5	K.R Prasanna s/o Late K.V Revanna	26	1 & 2	-	4	26	0	0	4	26	5.93, 0.49	2	11.5	Sy. No. 23, Halla	Remaining extent Sy. No. 26/1	Sy. No. 27, Sy. No. 27	Sy. No. 25, Sy. No. 26/1
6	K.R Prasanna s/o Late K.V Revanna	27	1	-	2	37	0	0.04	2	33	4.22	0	26.5	Halla	Remaining extent	Sy. No. 27/3	Sy. No. 26
7	T.C. Bairappa s/o late Chikkanna @ Chikkegowda	27	2	Wet	1	18	0	0	1	18	2.17	0	0.25	Halla	Remaining extent	Remaining extent	Sy. No. 27/3
8	Mohan Nayak s/o Manjappa	27	3	Dry/ Wet	0	24	0	0	0	24	0.9	0	4	Halla	Remaining extent	Sy. No. 27/2	Sy. No. 27/1
9	Pallappa s/o Bhovihanumaiah	28	1	-	1	0.03	0	0	1	0.03	2.06	1	1.5	Sy. No. 28/3 A & 38/3B	Halla	Halla	Sy. No. 28/2
10	Ramkrishnaiah .R s/o late Rangappa	28	2	-	1	0	0	1	0	39	1.87	1	1.75	Sy. No. 28/3A	Halla	Sy. No. 28/1	Sy. No. 29
11	Rajamma, T.C Rama Reddy, T.C Nagaraja Reddy, T.C Srinivas Reddy, T.C Chennakeshava Reddy	28	3A, 3B	Dry/ Wet	2	18	0	4	2	14	4.11, 0.39	1	12	Sy. No. 35, Sy. No. 28/3A	Sy. No.28/1& 28/2, Sy. No. 28/1	Sy. No. 35 & 28/3B, Sy. No. 35	Remaining extent Sy. No. 28/3A
12	Eramma, Gowramma, Chikkachikanna	29	2	-	0	29	0	0	0	29	1.16	0	11.5	Remaining extent	Halla	Sy. No. 28	Halla
13	Rajamma w/o late T.C Chikkanna Reddy, T.C Rama Reddy s/o late T.C Chikkanna Reddy, T.C Srinivasa Reddy S/.o late T.C Chikanna Reddy, T.C Nagaraj Reddy s/o late T.C Chikanna Reddy, T.C Chennakeshava Reddy s/o Late T.C Chikkanna Reddy	35	1	Dry	0	30	0	0	0	30	1.52	0	29.5	Sy. No. 35/4	Halla	Sy. No. 35/2 & 35/3	Sy. No. 28
14	Marappa Munishamaiah	35	2	Wet	0	18	0	0	0	18	0.61	0	2.25	35/3	35/2 Part	35/2 Part	35/1

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BIBLIOGRAPHY

Petrofiction: Sands of time

Why writers have been slow to wake up to writing about the impact of oil on life and politics

JOAN SONY CHERIAN

The world is grappling with sky-high prices of crude oil caused by fluctuations in the global market due to the Russia-Ukraine crisis. It seems an appropriate time more than ever to understand the cultural impact of the oil encounter on literature.

The economic, political, and socio-cultural impact of oil was a major impetus for globalisation and free market trade. The discovery of oil, in no ambiguous terms, revolutionised the world.

Fictions on petrol

Yet, as Amitav Ghosh asks in his seminal essay 'Petrofiction: The Oil Encounter and the novel', "why, when there is so much to write about, has this (oil) encounter proved so imaginatively sterile?". The distinct lack of prose/verse from this encounter is surprising to say the least. Ghosh himself gives us a couple of reasons why not many 'petrofictions', as he calls it, have been written.

The 'Gulf' – as a spatial marker for oil – evokes in us multiple images. Oil rigs, a hot sun, sand dunes and of course, the enormous luxury that came with it which transformed a desert into one of the most modern multicultural hubs of our time. Oil also evokes fluidity, not only because of its nature but also for its potential to generate capital flow in more ways than one and for the in-flow of thousands of migrant labourers. The interaction of multiple cultures and the overflow of wealth against the backdrop of 'black gold', makes writing complex and often impossible.

Therefore, Ghosh applauds the effort of Abdul Rahman Munif when he attempts to portray the discovery of oil in *Cities of Salt* (1984), the first of his quintet novel series. Munif introduces us to the Wadi al-Uyoun, an oasis in the middle of the scorching desert which offers solace to travellers and day traders. He presents it as a utopia where people come to congregate, sell their wares, and tell stories of their adventures in the desert.

The people of the Wadi al-Uyoun, though not wealthy, are content with the little they have both in terms of land and food. However, all of those changes with the coming of the Americans, digging for oil. In the blink of an eye, the landscape changes. The oasis disappears and we see oil rigs, machines and the people of the Wadi al-Uyoun hired and under schedule. Gone are the days with the travellers and their listless stories. But when the rig suddenly lays off workers, the people organise a strike which results in a reinstatement of the labourers who were fired. While the novel ends on a positive note, as Ghosh himself critiques, such an ending is escapist at best. The oil rigs are characterised by a surplus of migrant labour. Language and cultural barriers prevent them from forming any organisational cross-networks. Even if they did, in nations where labour rights are next to non-existent for foreigners, unionising will only lead to violent suppression.

Such revolutionary hopes make a comeback again in Teddy Wayne's *Kapitoil* (2010). The protagonist Karim from Qatar emigrates to the U.S. to work for a tech company. While working there, he perfects a computer programme which predicts market fluctuations in oil stocks by analysing western news reports on West Asia. Karim goes from being a firm believer in the American dream and the potential of the oil stocks to make him rich to questioning everything around him starting from his boss, Mr. Schrub.

In the end, we see him refusing to give over the programme to his employer and instead opts to release the code as open-source through an academic paper. Wayne showcases a release from the deep-rooted effects of oil and its capital much like Munif, in the way that is both daring and unrealistic.

Murky waters

In the latter half of the 21st century, the environmental effects of oil started becoming more visible. The deepwater horizon oil spill of 2010 was an industrial disaster in the Gulf of Mexico. It is considered to be the largest marine oil spill in the history of the petroleum industry resulting in still-prevailing effects affecting marine life, migratory bird patterns and all other kinds of ecosystems. Taking inspiration from their own journey to the Gulf of Mexico to inspect the oil spill, journalist Steve Duin and cartoonist Shannon Wheeler take us through the most severely affected areas of the oil spill in *Oil and Water* (2011), a graphic novel.

The book traces the pilgrimage undertaken by a group of do-gooders from Oregon who travel to the oil rig to understand the effects of the spill. With strokes of black and white, the authors portray grim and dead people making do with what's left of a devastating oil spill. One of the most heart-wrenching strokes portrayed is when the group visit the 'Hammond Oiled Wildlife Refuge Centre'. Here at the centre, birds (mainly pelicans) who have been traumatised by the effects of the oil spill are treated and set free again. We are shown the process of how a 'brown' pelican (made brown by the thick layers of oil coating) which has ingested toxic amounts of oil is stabilised and later set free after treatment.

The oil has sunk so deep that the attendants need to use detergent for the feathers and saline solution for the eyes. While the refuge centre claims that they have rescued and rehabilitated thousands of pelicans, the group direly notes that most of those pelicans would not survive again and that 'freeing' them was equivalent to letting them die. "The birds will die in numbers we can neither count nor imagine, invisible victims of this invasive spill."

Kerala and the Gulf dream

The oil boom had its effects in India as well, particularly in Kerala. Migrant labour petrofiction has been made popular by writers like Deepak Unnikrishnan and Muzafer Ahamed. When the oil-boom of the Gulf countries first hit the world between the years of 1950 to the early 1970s, Kerala was undergoing a major unemployment crisis. The absence of an industrial sector and a shortage of jobs in agriculture left many young men nowhere to turn to. Therefore, the opportunity to go *akkare* (across the seas) was heaven-sent. Soon enough, the figure of the *Gulfkaran* (man from the Gulf) with his colourful shirts, bell-bottom pants and gold watches became a common trope in popular culture.

The remittances from migrant labour helped the State build its reserves at a time when industry was lacking. Till date, a significant part of Kerala's GDP is made from foreign remittances from the Gulf. However, this migration for the longest time hid its most terrible stories. Benyamin's *Goat Days (Aadujeevitham)*, tells the tale of Najeeb whose oil-ridden Gulf dreams went awry when he became a victim of labour fraud. He was kept as a goat herder by a cruel *arbab* as he calls his Arab sponsor (or so he thought) who tortured him and made him toil for three years without proper relief or rest.

The gut-wrenching tale shows the utter helplessness the desert offers to migrant labour especially when they are poor and uneducated. Najeeb finally escapes, ironically via prison, when he is deported for not having adequate documentation.

There are still many tales to be told of the desert; the stories are far from over.

FROM THE ARCHIVES

Know your English

"Good morning, sir."

"Good morning."

"Is it all right to say 'He is rather very tired'?"

"No, you are either rather tired or very tired but not rather very tired. 'Rather' means 'somewhat' or 'a little'. So if you are slightly tired, you say 'I am rather tired'. You don't say 'I am slightly very tired'. You are either somewhat tired or very tired but not somewhat very tired. So don't say 'I am rather very tired'. "Rather" doesn't go with 'very'."

"Sir, what's the difference between 'They must have copied' and 'They should have copied'."

'They must have copied' means that you are reasonably certain that they have copied.

They must have gone home.

He must have finished his work.

The minister must have arrived.

'They should have copied' means that *it was their duty* to copy but they *didn't copy*. I should have gone there myself means I didn't go. He should have represented the government means that somebody else represented the government. He should have gone. Why didn't he?

She should have got the job. But she didn't get it.

He is not here. He must have gone home. I find the draft here. My steno must have left it. I hope you understand the difference."

"Yes, sir. Sir, you said you'd discuss Orwell's rules one by one."

"Oh, yes, Well, the first one is 'never use a *metaphor, simile or figure of speech* which you are used to seeing in print'. That is, don't use *expressions* that have become stale. Some feel that if you string together some idioms, it should be considered good English. Suppose I write a letter to my brother like this:

My dear brother,

I hope this finds you in *fine fettle*. Here all are in the *pink of health*. Raju has come off with flying colours in the examination. He is not interested in *filthy lucre*. He is determined to hitch his wagon to the star. I am moving heaven and earth to get a suitable bridegroom for Sheela. I have almost been *crowned* with success. But there is many a slip between the cup and the lip. But once I have a crack at something, I'll go on to the *bitter end*. Rest in my next.

Yours affectionately.

"Why do you laugh?"

"It's funny, sir."

"Well, I am glad you think it's funny. Some think it is profound. It sounds funny because you don't write like that or speak like that. Idioms should be used only occasionally. There is no freshness about them. They have been used thousands of times. *Metaphors and similes* should be new. You should not use stale ones and expect appreciation. If you say to a woman that her face is like the *lotus flower*, she is not likely to think that you are a great poet. This simile is stale. *Great writers* make creative use of language. They give words freshness without robbing them of naturalness. Ordinarily you should try to use pithy, conversational words. You should write and speak with competence but without affectation.

Hazlitt says in his essay, 'On Familiar Style':

"It is not easy to write a familiar style, Many people mistake a familiar for a vulgar style, and suppose that to write without affectation is to write at random. On the contrary, there is nothing that requires more precision, and if I may say so, purity of expression, than the style I am speaking of. It utterly rejects not only all unmeaning pomp, but all low, cant phrases, and loose unconnected, slipshod allusions. It is not to take the first word that offers, but the best word in common use; it is not to throw words together in any combinations we please, but to follow and avail ourselves of the true idiom of the language. To write a genuine familiar or truly English style, is to write as anyone would speak in common conversation, who had a thorough command and choice of words, or who could discourse with ease, force, and perspicuity, setting aside all pedantic and oratorical flourishes."

Well, we'll stop here for the day. It's getting late for you. Goodbye."

"Thank you, sir. Goodbye."

THE DAILY QUIZ

Edward Jenner born on May 17, 1749 was a British physician and scientist who pioneered the concept of vaccines, including developing the smallpox vaccine. Here is a quiz on the history of vaccines and the scientists involved in their research.

1 Louis Pasteur, a French microbiologist renowned for his discoveries of the principles of vaccination, developed vaccines for rabies and anthrax. Who was the first person to be inoculated against rabies by Pasteur, and likely the first person to be successfully treated for the infection?

2 Edward Jenner often called the father of immunology, is credited for developing the smallpox vaccine. Which virus caused smallpox?

3 Priority for the discovery of HIV has been controversial and was a subplot in the 1993 American television film docudrama. The film is based on a non-fiction book that chronicles the discovery and spread of HIV and AIDS. What is the name of the book, and who wrote it?

4 The MMR vaccine, developed by Maurice Hilleman, is a vaccine against three infectious diseases. Name them

5 The vaccination programme launched in 1985 by the Government of India consists of vaccination for 12 diseases. Name the programme

6 She is an Australian virologist, who was a leading member of the team that discovered the human rotavirus. She was awarded the Florey Medal in 2013 for her discovery of rotavirus and subsequent work helping to develop a vaccine. Who is she?

7 A 2011 American film regained popularity during the COVID-19 pandemic for its plot concerning the spread of a virus, followed by attempts to identify and contain the disease, and the introduction of a vaccine. Which is this film, directed by Steven Soderbergh?

Compiled by: Sindhu Nagaraj

◄ Identify this scientist who is known for developing the oral polio vaccine, which played a key role in nearly eradicating the disease.

Please send in your answers to the **dailyquiz@thehindu.co.in**

Questions (abridged) and Answers to the previous day's daily quiz: 1. What does 'Buddha' mean in Sanskirt and the birth name of the individual who propagated Buddhism. **Ans: 'Awakened one' and Siddhartha Gautama**

2. The festival that commemorates the birth, enlightenment, and death of Gautama Buddha on the same day. **Ans: Wesak**

3. Name the places of the Buddha's first sermon and parinirvana. **Ans: Sarnath and Kushinagar**

4. The Pali term used in Buddhism for the three characteristics of all existence and beings. **Ans: Tilakkhana**

5. At what age did the prince leave his home, attain awakening and leave his mortal coils. **Ans: 29, 35, and 80 years**

6. The name given to the future Buddha who will preach anew the dharma. **Ans: Maitreya**

7. Two other UNESCO World Heritage Sites in India associated with Buddhism apart from the Mahabodhi Temple Complex and the Sanchi monuments. **Ans: Ajanta Caves and Elephanta Caves**

8. The present head of the Dge-lugs-pa (Yellow Hat) order of Tibetan Buddhists. **Ans: The 14th Dalai Lama**

Visual: Name the religious structure and what relic is it said to house. Ans: **The Temple of the Tooth in Kandy, Sri Lanka**

Early Birds: Kaveesh Sethi | Ronnie Chatterjee | R.D. Prabahar | Khushbu Yash Garg | Arun Singh

For feedback and suggestions for Text & Context, please write to **letters@thehindu.co.in** with the subject 'Text & Context'

Students on the first day of school in Bengaluru on Monday. • SUDHAKARA JAIN

Festive atmosphere welcomes students back

Schools sport a colourful look with flowers and rangolis

STAFF REPORTER
BENGALURU

It was a scene that had multiple disruptions in the last two years, but on Monday, many schools wore a festive atmosphere as they welcomed students back.

After 35 days of summer vacation, all schools, including State and Central boards, reopened for the academic year of 2022-23.

Government schools were decorated with flowers and rangolis, and teachers welcomed students with roses, chocolates, and sweets.

While students looked happy to be back at school after two years of mostly online classes, parents were seen rushing to drop their children in the morning. Most schools said the attendance is moderate.

Some private schools have also postponed the reopening to May 25 and June 1.

"After the summer vacation, students are very happy to come to school. We welcomed the students with roses and chocolates. In the midday meal, we will serve sweets to all the students. To help in learning recovery of the students, according to the instructions by the Department of Public Instruction (DPI), we are launching Kalika Chetarike programme and school enrollment campaign," said Mala, vice-principal, KPS school, Basavanagudi.

Sanjana Paragi, a Class X student, was eager to get back to the classroom. "There is no COVID-19 and lockdown this year. So, we enjoyed the summer vacation and are happy to come to school. This year, I am studying in Class X and I have lot of responsibility. I want to study hard from day one," she said.

Student thanks Bommai for financial aid

STAFF REPORTER
BENGALURU

Chaitanya, a student from Jeevan Jai Hind School in Tumakuru, who lost her parents to COVID-19, thanked Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai for providing financial aid of ₹3,500 every month from the government.

"I want to study hard and become a doctor," she said at the event where the CM participated in the inaugural session of the school opening and Kalika Chetrike programme organised by the Department of Public Instruction(DPI).

Mr. Bommai said, "Our government is providing scholarship for all farmers' children and adopting COVID-19 orphans and helping them with their education".

Revised textbooks won't be available for next three months

Delay of review committee's report and tendering process are main reasons

JAYANTH R.
BENGALURU

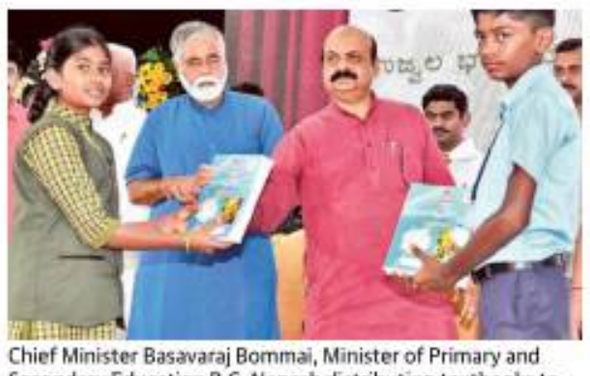
Schools reopened across the State on Monday, but revised textbooks will not be available to students for the next three months.

Students and parents are going to various shops trying to find the new textbooks, but owing to a lack of supply, there are no new books.

Delay of submission of the textbook review committee's report and tendering process are the main reasons that caused the delay in textbook printing and supply.

Sources in the Education Department said revised textbooks are being printed and it will take time till August to supply them. Until then, students will be dependent on the old books.

A complaint by the Karnataka Brahmana Mahasabha that some lessons of Classes VI and VIII are hurting sentiments of the Brahmin community had led to the State government forming a committee to revise all the textbooks from Classes I to X.



Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai, Minister of Primary and Secondary Education B.C. Nagesh distributing textbooks to students in Tumakuru on Monday.

The revision committee, which is headed by writer Rohith Chakrateertha, submitted its report to the government in March.

According to the report, Social Science textbooks of Classes VI to X in all mediums, Classes I to X Kannada first language (except Class III) textbooks, Kannada second language textbooks of Classes VI, VIII, and IX, and third language textbooks of all mediums of Classes VII, VIII, and IX were revised.

Usually, the Karnataka Textbook Society (KTBS) starts the textbook indent and tendering process around November every year. Because of late submission of the textbook revision committee report, this year, the entire textbook process was delayed.

According to the May 16 printing and distribution progress report of KTBS, 54.53% textbooks were supplied to all the blocks. The total textbook requirement is 5.65 crore, while the textbook printing up to today is 3.99 crore (70.74%).

The total textbook supply from printers is 3.61 crore (63.94%) and the total textbooks received at the block level are 3.08 crore (54.53%).

However, KTBS did not reveal the revised textbook printing process and supply data.

Amidst these textbook supply glitches, the Department of Public Instruction (DPI) has ordered all schools to open book banks, collect old books, and distribute them among students.

Timings
BENGALURU

TUESDAY, MAY. 17	
RISE 05:54	SET 18:38
RISE 20:05	SET 06:43
WEDNESDAY, MAY. 18	
RISE 05:54	SET 18:38
RISE 21:12	SET 07:43
THURSDAY, MAY. 19	
RISE 05:54	SET 18:39
RISE 22:17	SET 08:47

Bengaluru Weather	max	min
Tumakuru	32	25
Mysuru	30	19
Bengaluru	29	22

Bengaluru Today
29°C The weather will be comfortable and humid. Night will be pleasant. Spell of rain and thundershower to occur.

Bengaluru Tomorrow
28°C A comfortable but humid weather to prevail. Night remains comfortable. Few spells of moderate rain and thundershower will occur.

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PSI exam scam: Two more detained

BENGALURU

The CID officials, probing the PSI recruitment scam, detained two more persons on Monday. They have been identified as Narayana, a successful PSI candidate, and Guru Basavaraju, who is involved in the exam process and allegedly part of the scam.

THE HINDU
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Install speed governors in garbage trucks: Police

The traffic police at the jurisdictional level have been directed to regularly monitor if drivers are complying with the regulation. • FILE PHOTO

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

Concerned over the increasing number of fatal accidents involving Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) garbage trucks, the traffic police have asked the civic body to install speed governors in the vehicles.

B.R. Ravikanthe Gowda, Joint Commissioner of Police (Traffic), said the speed limit of garbage trucks has been fixed at 40 km per hour within the city, and the traffic police at the jurisdictional level have been directed to regularly monitor if drivers are complying with the regulation. The truck drivers have been trained on safe driving and traffic rules in batches at the designated centres. As many as 40 drivers, who were part of the first batch, have completed the training and have shown drastic changes in their driving skills and traffic discipline, Mr. Gowda said.

The training will be on how to drive safely in school zones, residential areas, and silent zones, where and how to park and follow rules accordingly. The jurisdictional traffic police have been directed to keep a tab on the drivers and take necessary measures, he added.

A day after a BBMP truck ran over a 40-year-old woman SBI employee at Nayandahalli junction on April 19, the traffic police launched a special drive and seized nine vehicles for failing to provide the required documents. Another 307 garbage trucks were booked for traffic violations in a single day.

Man arrested for extortion

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

A self-proclaimed social activist was arrested on Monday for allegedly threatening owners of recreational clubs and extorting money from them, claiming affiliation with the City Police Commissioner and senior officials of the CCB.

Based on a complaint filed by Ramesh Hanumanthappa, owner of a recreational club in Adugodi, the police arrested Ashok Kumar Adiga.

In his complaint, Mr. Hanumanthappa said that the accused held a meeting of owners of recreational club owners last month and threatened them that if they wanted to run gambling, they would have to make him the owner of the clubs through an agreement. Adiga claimed that the CCB and the police would not dare to raid the clubs and demanded ₹50,000 as protection money.

When a few club owners walked out of the meeting, the accused threatened them with a gun and snatched ₹50,000 from them. He also threatened that he would order the police to raid their clubs if they did not pay him.

One of the club owners recorded a phone conversation between him and Adiga, and put it on social media, which went viral.

Unabated rain leads to waterlogged streets

It led to traffic snarls during the peak hour

STAFF REPORTER
BENGALURU

The pre-monsoon showers continued in Bengaluru on Monday as moderate rainfall lashed the city in the second half of the day. By evening, many roads within the Central Business District and some other parts of the city were waterlogged, which also led to traffic snarls at many places during the peak hour.

The parking area at Swami Vivekananda Road metro station was unapproachable owing to waterlogging.

"I was forced to drive in the rain as I could not park my vehicle at the metro station. There was also waterlogging on Suranjandas Road, Old Madras Road, and even parts of Cubbon Road," said Diya, who had to travel to CBD during the evening for work. The roads were also flooded in parts of Whitefield, Sarjapur, Hebbal, Kodigehalli, and Yelahanka.

Clouds over the Vidhana Soudha as rain continued to lash the city on Monday. • K. MURALI KUMAR

The Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) control room received waterlogging complaints from near Ayyappa temple in Madiwala and Bhadrappa Layout in Hebbal.

A tree also fell down near Oil Mill Road. The India Meteorological Department (IMD) has also issued an orange alert (very heavy rainfall) in Bengaluru for Tuesday and Wednesday.

Man held for sexually harassing air hostess

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

The Kempegowda International Airport police on Friday arrested a 28-year-old man on the charge of sexually harassing an air hostess on a flight.

The accused, identified as Nandkishor Bhati, 28, from Rajasthan, was travelling from Jaipur to Bengaluru, when he misbehaved with the cabin crew. The victim raised objection and complained to her senior colleague. When the accused was confronted, he apologised. A few minutes later, he asked for tea and when the victim was serving him, the accused touched her inappropriately, the police said. The staff, soon after the flight landed, complained to the airport police and handed over the accused. The police have registered a case charging him under Section 354(1) (assaults or uses criminal force to any woman, intending to outrage modesty) of the IPC.

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15	Venkatesh .R s/o B.R Ramachandrappa	35	3	Dry	0	16	0	0	0	16	0.81	0	16	37	35/2	37	35/1
16	Munishamareddy s/o Sidappa	35	4	Dry	2	0.5	0	0	2	0.5	4.3	1	4.25	Remaining extent	Sy. No. 35/1	Sy. No. 37	Sy. No. 35/7
17	T.C Channappa Reddy, T.C Nagaraj Reddy, T.C Ramachandra Reddy	35	7	Dry	0	24	0	1	0	23	1.45	0	5	Remaining extent	Sy. No. 28	Sy. No. 35/4	Sy. No. 28
18	Somashekar s/o Marappa,	36	1, 1/A	Wet	0	23	0	0	0	23	1.5	0	4.75	NALA	36/1 Part	NALA	NALA
19	Harish Kumar s/o M.Ga B.R Ramachandrappa, B.R Ramachandrappa s/o Rangappa, B.R Annaiahppa s/o Rangappa T.Gangaraju s/o Late Thimmaiah	37	-	Dry	12	14	0	0	12	14	15	3	19	Remaining extent	Remaining extent	Sy. No. 47 & 48	Sy. No. 35
20	Smt C.Vasanthakuamri D/o H.K Nanjaiah,	46	1	Wet	2	5.8	0	5.8	2	0	2.56	0	11	48/3	46 Part	46 Part	48/5, 48/3
21	N. Narayana Swamy s/o Narayanappa	47	"	Wet	2	20	0	0	2	20	4.92	1	9	37, 48/6	47 Part	47 Part	37
22	Paravathamma w/o late T.S Ramaiah, Basavaraju s/o Nanjappa	48	1	-	1	14	0	0	1	14	2.3	0	16.5	Sy.No. 49	Sy. No 48/3	Sy.No. 46	Sy. No. 48/1 Part
23	Ramakrishnappa s/o Nanjappa	48	2	-	0	36	0	0	0	36	1.53	0	35.5	Sy.No. 49	Sy.No. 48/3	Sy.No. 46	Sy.No. 48/1
24	Basavaraju s/o Nanjappa, C.Aravindaraju s/o C Venkateshwara Rao, Revanna, Manjunath, Nagaraju, Kumar s/o late Bhogeshappa, K.Byrappa	48	3	Wet	2	29	0	0.2	2	27	4.56	2	11.25	Remaining extent	Remaining extent	Remaining extent	Remaining extent
25	Basavaraju s/o Nanjappa, Basavaraju s/o Nanjappa	48	4	Dry	1	11	0	0	1	11	2.18	0	1.25	Remaining extent	Sy. No. 37	Sy. No. 48/6	Remaining extent
26	B. Premanatha Reddy s/o Mathiyas Reddy	48	5	-	0	17	0	0	0	17	0.73	0	17	Sy.No 48/3	Sy.No 47	Sy.No 46	Sy.No. 48/6
27	B Premanatha Reddy s/o Nathiyas Reddy	48	6	Dry	0	28	0	0	0	28	1.19	0	30	Remaining extent	Remaining extent	Remaining extent	Sy. No. 48/4
28	NALA	NA-LA	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	4.5	35/1	36/1	NALA Part	28/1
29	NALA	NA-LA	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	18	28/1, 28/2, 29/2	27/3, 27/1, 26	NALA Part	NALA Part
30	Cart Road	Road	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	2	47	Road Part	Road Part	37
				Total Ext.	49	12	0	12	48	32		25	11				

ABSTRACT

District	Name of the Taluk	Name of the Hobli	Name of the Village	Extent Proposed for Acquisition	
				A	G
Bangalore Urban	Bangalore North	Dasanapura	1. Madavara	1	30.25
			2.Srikantapura	9	24.75
			3. Thotadaguddadahalli	32	31.5
			4.Kuduregere	0	3.5
			5.Thammenahalli	25	11
			Grand Total	69	21

Commissioner
Bangalore Development Authority,
Bengaluru

Published by N. Ravi at Kasturi Buildings, 859 & 860, Anna Salai, Chennai-600002 and Printed by C. Sridhar at Plot No. 13-D, Bommasandra-Jigani Link Road, KIADB Industrial Area, Bommasandra, Anekal Taluk, Bengaluru-560099 on behalf of THG PUBLISHING PVT LTD., Chennai-600002. Editor: Suresh Nambath (Responsible for selection of news under the PRB Act).
RN No. RAREMG/2970/49945 • ISSN 0971 - 751X • Vol. 53 • No. 116

IMD forecasts heavy to very heavy rain through the week

Orange and Red alerts have been sounded in all districts of coastal Karnataka

STAFF REPORTER
BENGALURU

Even before the monsoon sets in, many parts of the State are predicted to receive heavy to very heavy rainfall throughout the week. The India Meteorological Department (IMD) has sounded Orange and Red alerts (heavy to very heavy rainfall) in all districts of coastal Karnataka on Wednesday and Thursday. The rains will mainly occur as a result of moisture-laden strong westerly winds in the Arabian Sea and a few other systems, according to the weatherman.

"The strong westerlies are blowing towards the coasts of Kerala and Karnataka at 1.5 km above sea level. There is also an upper air cyclonic circulation at 3.6-5.8 km above sea level in Lakshadweep, which is prevailing over Tamil Nadu and its neighbourhood. There is a north-south trough extending 900 metres above mean sea level from Madhya Pradesh to Tamil Nadu across interior Karnataka. All of this will result in heavy rainfall in the State for the next few days," said a scientist at IMD Bengaluru.

On Monday, heavy rains along with thunderstorms lashed Mangaluru and other parts of coastal Karnataka. Chamarajanagar, Tumakuru, Shivamogga, Hassan, Bengaluru and other parts of south-interior Karnataka received moderate spells of rain with thunderstorms and gusty winds up to 30-40 kilometre per hour during the evening.

In all, districts of south-interior Karnataka, yellow alert has been issued on Tuesday and orange alert has been issued on Wednesday and Thursday by the IMD. Ahead of the alerts in coastal Karnataka, district administrations of Dakshina Kannada and Udupi have advised people to stay cautious and not enter waterbodies. They have also advised the fishermen to not enter the sea for three days.

Even though the intensity might subside for a while before monsoon sets in, the rainfall across the State is expected to continue through next week too. "It can be said that summer is mostly over in the State. These rain spells will be followed by the monsoon, which will set across the State between June 7 and 10," a scientist explained.

Heavy rain along with thunderstorms lashed Mangaluru city on Monday. • H.S. MANJUNATH

HDK slams Rahul Gandhi

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

Questioning the statement of Congress leader Rahul Gandhi in Chintan Shivir that regional parties do not have ideological commitment, Janata Dal (Secular) leader H.D. Kumaraswamy on Monday said that Mr. Gandhi should elaborate his words and explain what he meant.

"Congress toppled the United Front government led by I.K. Gujral by insisting on keeping the DMK out after citing the DMK-LTTE relationship in the killing of former Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi. Later, shared power with DMK for 10 years in the UPA 1 & 2 led by Manmohan Singh. Is it the ideological commitment?" he tweeted on Monday. He said; "If Rahul Gandhi believes that it is only the Congress that has strength to defeat the BJP, he should not forget that his party enjoyed power for 10 years under the obligation of regional parties."

The former Chief Minister asked: "Is it the ideological commitment that the Congress came home and offered a coalition government but joined hands with Operation Kamala. Is it ideological commitment to swallow friendly regional parties." He said that the Congress is having a phobia of regional parties and Rahul Gandhi should not forget that Congress is in its last stages in Karnataka.

Horatti resigns as Chairman and as member of Council

He is set to join the BJP today

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

Bringing an end to his decades-long association with the Janata Parivar, Chairman of the Karnataka Legislative Council Basavaraj Horatti on Monday tendered resignation to the post as well to his membership from the Council.

Setting to rest speculations, he is set to join the BJP on Tuesday and contest in the Karnataka West Teachers' constituency from where he has won for a record seven times.

The term of Mr. Horatti, who was elected on Janata Dal (Secular) ticket, would have otherwise come to an end on July 4. The Election Commission of India has already notified elections to four teachers' and graduates' constituency, including the West Teachers, to be held on June 13.

In the absence of a Deputy Chairman in the Council (yet to be elected), he submitted an one-line resignation letter to Council Secretary K.R. Mahalakshmi on Monday after addressing the media. While the Governor has to accept his resignation that will be routed through the Law Department, Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai will have to propose to the Governor a member from the Council for appointment as pro-tem Chairman since the post of Legislative Council Chairman is a constitutional one that cannot be left vacant. Mr. Horatti also clarified that though he had addressed his resignation letter to the Deputy Chairman as per protocol, he handed over the letter to the Secretary since the post is lying vacant.

Basavaraj Horatti

"The decision to join the BJP was an accidental choice and I was under pressure from teachers and well-wishers to contest from this party. Sometimes such decisions also become inevitable," Mr. Horatti said, defending his decision to leave the JD(S). Though the BJP is expected to nominate him as the party's choice for the post of Chairman if he gets elected, Mr. Horatti denied joining the BJP on that condition. He also clarified that his decision to shift parties was not to enable his children to enter politics.

Under criticism from the Congress that he allegedly brought disrespect to the Constitutional post by meeting Union Home Minister and BJP leader Amit Shah to discuss his political future, he said that was a brief meeting where other government functionaries including Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai was also present. Mr. Horatti, however, parried away several questions on his comfort level and acceptance of BJP ideology after having spent his political life in socialist ideology.

When asked if his decision to quit the JD(S) was linked to the party denying him a Cabinet berth during the JD (S)-Congress coalition, he said: "I did not express disappointment when I did not get Cabinet berth. I also understood the coalition pressures."

While thanking JD(S) supremo H.D. Deve Gowda for his guidance and for making him a Minister in the JD(S)-BJP coalition government earlier, the veteran leader, whose seven-time victory stands as a national record, said: "I do not have the strength to meet him. He has always treated me as a family member. So I have sent a detailed 10 to 12 page note to Mr. Gowda. He is the most matured politician. I have also spoken to (former Chief Minister) H.D. Kumaraswamy and he had also come home."

Ravi justifies Bajrang Dal's firearm training to youths in Kodagu

'Meant to impart self-defence skills'

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
KALABURAGI

BJP national general secretary C.T. Ravi justified Bajrang Dal's firearm training to youths in Kodagu by stating that they were using only airguns.

"Bajrang Dal holds such arms training camps every year. Even the police department gives such training to the public. Imparting self-defence techniques is the purpose of such training. There is nothing wrong," Mr. Ravi told journalists in Kalaburagi.

Mr. Ravi justified the State government's decision to include Keshava Balirama Hedgewar's speech in class 10 textbook saying the BJP government was inculcating the spirit of nationalism among students.

"What is wrong in including Hedgewar's speech in the textbook? Hedgewar was a nationalist. The Congress and Left parties had suppressed the nationalist thought for a long period. We are upholding and even teaching them to students," Mr. Ravi

On the Opposition's criticisms of the CID investigation into the PSI recruitment exam scam, Mr. Ravi said that those who are not satisfied are free to approach the court.

"The government is making sincere efforts to bring the culprits to justice. We have spared none. Around 200 people have been questioned and 40 have been arrested. There is no question of protecting anybody involved in the scam," he said.

Later, referring to the court-mandated videography survey of the Gyanvapi masjid complex in Uttar Pradesh's Varanasi, Mr. Ravi said that thousands of temples in the country were destroyed and replaced with masjids.

When asked about the 'one family, one ticket' rule that Congress is mooting, Mr. Ravi said, "Congress leaders are experts in bypassing the rules they themselves formulate. When they formulated the 'one family, one ticket' rule, they also added a clause of exemption. Everybody would take a certificate to show that they had worked for five years and get a ticket. The dynastic politics would continue," Mr. Ravi said.

Ruling out the possibility of a change of leadership for BJP in Karnataka, Mr. Ravi said that the party would face the next Assembly elections under the leadership of Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai.

Meanwhile, demanding the arrest of Bajrang Dal leaders for providing arms training to students, Leader of the Opposition Siddaramaiah said that by providing arms training, the Bajrang Dal has challenged the law of the land.

"Do we have Home Minister or Education Minister? Is the Government still alive?" he asked, and urged the Home Minister to file a case and arrest Bajrang Dal leaders.

Buddha Purnima

Buddhist monks and devotees praying at Mahabodhi Society, a Buddhist Charitable Organisation established in 1956, in Bengaluru on Monday. • K. MURALI KUMAR

Four arrested for attacking cow protection volunteers

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

The State government on Monday sought a report on the alleged police failure in taking action against an illegal slaughterhouse in Channapatna, near here, even as the Channapatna East police have arrested four persons, including the owner of the slaughterhouse, on the charge of attacking members of a cow protection foundation when they went on an inspection.

Expressing disappointment over the police behaviour in not taking action, Home Minister Araga Jnanendra has sought a report from DG & IGP Praveen Sood on the slaughterhouse and the violence that was reported on Sunday. He said that there was a complaint that the police present at the spot did not act when the Gou Gyan Foundation were attacked. Mr. Jnanendra has asked the DG & IGP to probe the complaint and the alleged police failure.

Meanwhile, the police have arrested four persons on the charge of attacking volunteers of the foundation. The incident occurred when volunteers led by Sanjay Kulkarni went to the illegal slaughterhouse in Beedi colony and were videorecording on Sunday morning. Ramanagaram district Superintendent of Police Santosh Babu K. said that the police reached the spot and contained the situation and arrested four persons, while two including owner of another slaughterhouse are absconding. The accused have been charged under various sections of the IPC. In his complaint, Mr. Kulkarni said that the accused ran illegal slaughterhouse where over 30 heads of cattle were locked up in shed. He accused that many had been slaughtered and meat was being transported to different locations.

Chief Minister announces ₹5 lakh cash prize for Lakshya Sen

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai on Monday announced a cash reward of ₹5 lakh to Lakshya Sen, who is part of the Indian badminton team that won the Thomas Cup in Thailand on Sunday.

Mr. Bommai's announcement came during the inauguration of Mini Olympic Sports Meet-2022, organised by the Youth Empowerment and Sports Department.

Special training

"One should play to win. Playing not to lose will not fetch success. So we should always play with a positive spirit. Our Government is encouraging all sports. We have selected 75 sportspersons from various disciplines for special training ahead of the Paris Olympics," he added.

Two come under chariot at village fair

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
MYSURU

Two people died and two others suffered injuries when they came under the wheels of a chariot at a jathra (fair) in Parvathi Hills in Chamarajanagar's Gundlupet taluk on Sunday.

While 27-year-old Sarpabhushan from Kandegala village died on the spot, three others were rushed to the taluk hospital in Gundlupet for treatment.

One of the injured persons, Swamy, 40, also from Kandegala village, who was shifted to K.R. Hospital in Mysuru for further treatment, succumbed to injuries in Mysuru late at night on Sunday. Two injured persons are undergoing treatment at the government hospital in Gundlupet.

FROM PAGE ONE

Christian leaders meet Governor

It also said that thousands of educational institutions and hospitals were run by the Christian community and no complaint of forced conversion had been reported. A few stray and sporadic incidents of conversion should not show the entire community in bad light.

In the interest and welfare of the Christian community in the State, the delegation strongly appealed to the Governor to refrain from giving his assent to the Ordinance.

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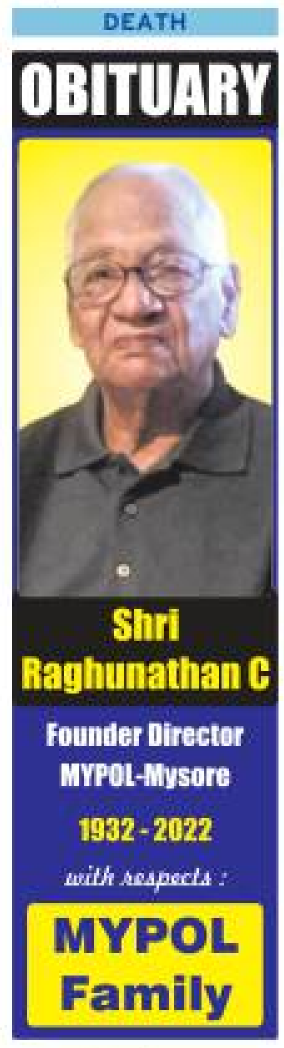
OBITUARY & REMEMBRANCE

DEATH



DEATH ANNIVERSARIES

In Memory of your loved ones
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PERSONAL

CHANGE OF NAME

I, HAZEETHA Ansar, spouse of Ansar R S resident of SMQ 87/6, Airmen Training School, Sambra, Belagavi PIN 591124 have changed my name from Hazeetha Ansar to Hazeetha H vide Affidavit dated 13/05/2022 sworn before notary R R Patil Belagavi

I, A.Vijaya Kumari, D/o Late M Appa Swamy ID No.25593, Rank: L/Naik in MEG No 1309235, PPO No.S/4542/69, r/at No.248/1, behind Shakthiamma Temple, 4th Cross, AK Colony, BSC Road, Frazer Town, Bangalore-560005 have changed my name from Vijayamma to A.Vijaya Kumari and in army records my date of birth mentioned as 09.03.1957 but my correct date of birth is 10.06.1956 vide affidavit dtd 16.05.22 sworn before Notary C Sharada, Bluru

I, THWISHA Arcot Nahender D/o Karthik Nahender R/a No.4, St John's Road, B'lore-42 have changed my name to Thwisha Nahender vide Notary dt 16.05.22 sworn before Dr.R.S.Vijay, B'lore- 43

I, SALWA Nayaz Ahamad W/o Syed Nayeem residing at No.25, 6th Cross, 1st Main Roacd, Defence Colony, Bagalgunte, Nagasandra, Bengaluru-570063, have changed my name to Salwa Nayaz Ahmed vide affidavit 16/05/2022 before C.V.Erappa, Notary, Bengaluru.

I, D. Jagannadhan S/o late Radhakrishna, R/at No. 60, 6th Main Road, Swathantra palya, Srirampuram, Bangalore-21 declare that throughout the records my name is mentioned as D. Jagannathan and not as M.Ganesh, which name by ignorance my mother had mentioned in the school records of my son and the said fact has been sworn through an affidavit dated 02-12-21 before notary and also through office of the compiler Karnataka, Government central press dated 28-12-21.

PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT

I, CALVIN I, have changed my name from CALVIN HEMANTH IRUTHAYA N to CALVIN I, for all future purposes by affidavit 14/05/2022, before the Notary Udaykumar K, Bang – 43

PUBLIC NOTICE

BEFORE THE HON'BLE PRINCIPAL DISTRICT AND SESSIONS JUDGE AT THIRUVALLUR
O.P.No 612 of 2022
Ms.Nabanita Banerjee, aged about 37 years, residing at Flat C, Madura Apartments, No.28/16, Pattammal St., Krishnapuram, Ambattur, Chennai – 600 053
.... Petitioner
VS
Mr.Sujit Mukherjee Age about 40 years No.16, Malampatti Homes, 49/2, 8th Cross, Manjunathan Layout, Munnekolala, Bengaluru Karnataka – 560 037
.....Respondent
NOTICE
Take notice that the Petitioner has filed the above Petition seeking custody of the Petitioner's son Master. Sattwajit Mukherjee and to declare the Petitioner as the guardian till the ward attains majority. The Hon'ble Court has ordered notice to you, the Respondent, by publication returnable by 13.06.2022. Kindly appear either in person or through your Counsel on 13.06.2022 at 10.30 AM before the said Court failing which the case will be heard and decided in your absence.
S.INDUMATHI RAVI
Counsel for Petitioner

16 districts achieve 100% second-dose coverage

14 have crossed 95% coverage

AFSHAN YASMEEN
BENGALURU

Sixteen districts in Karnataka have achieved 100% second-dose coverage, while 14 have crossed 95% coverage as of Sunday. Overall, 99% of the adult population in Karnataka is now fully vaccinated.

These 16 districts include Bengaluru Rural, Kodagu, Mandya, Hassan, Chickballapur, Kolar, and almost all north Karnataka districts.

From 51% on November 16 last year, the second-dose coverage in the State shot up to cross 80% on January 6 this year. It took over a month to cover another 10% and cross 90% by February 10. Subsequently, the second-dose vaccination slowed down and touched 99% only on May 15.

The first-dose coverage has stood at 102%, exceeding the target population of 4.89 crore. Officials said this is because the target population is only an estimate of the 2011 census.

According to data from CoWIN and the State Health Department, the second-dose coverage in 16 districts is above the State average of 99%. While Kolar and Bidar have achieved 106% coverage, Gadag has achieved 105%. Bengaluru Rural, Kodagu, Mandya, and Vijayaura have achieved 103% coverage. Bengaluru Urban (including BBMP), which was the first district in Karnataka to achieve 100% second-dose coverage on December 23, has now achieved 97% second-dose coverage.

While four districts, Ballari, Udupi, Koppal, and Chamarajanagar, have achieved 99% coverage, Tumakuru and Mysuru follow with 98% coverage. Officials said these districts will soon touch 100%.

Among the remaining districts, while Uttara Kannada has achieved 95% and Ramanagaram 96% coverage, the remaining have 97% coverage.

The initial enthusiasm shown for the precaution (third/booster) dose seems to have subsided with a mere 25% of the eligible adult population coming forward. After the third wave waned, people are not very keen on taking the booster shot, said officials.

The Centre had rolled out precaution dose administration for senior citizens, healthcare and frontline workers across the country on January 10 and for all others above 18 years from April 10.

While it is given free of cost for senior citizens, healthcare and frontline workers in government-run vaccination centres, the remaining population has to get it at private centres by paying ₹386.25 per dose.

Despite concerns about a fourth wave hitting the State in June, only 19,37,518 people of the total target population of 76,76,381 (including healthcare workers, frontline workers, and other citizens above 18 years) have taken the booster dose.

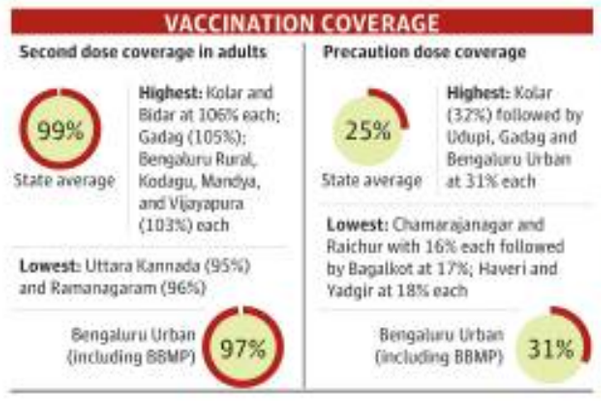
What is striking is that in at least 10 districts, not a single precaution dose has been administered for the last few days. On Sunday, Chamarajanagar, Bagalkot, Haveri, Yadgir, Mandya, Kodagu, Vijayapura, Gadag, and Udupi saw zero booster shot vaccinations. Besides, five-six districts have been recording vaccinations in single digits.

Officials said the target population for the precaution dose keeps changing everyday. This is because the number of eligible persons who have completed nine months after their second dose increases daily. In the last week of February when the target population stood at 18,24,236, the coverage was 62%.

State Health Commissioner Randeep D. said to improve precaution dose administration among adults, the department has intensified information, education and communication (IEC) through phone calls and messages to eligible persons.

"Overall the progress in administration of precaution dose has been low. On May 12, Health and Medical Education Minister K. Sudhakar, who reviewed the progress, called upon private hospitals to improve vaccination," the commissioner said.

99% of the adult population in Karnataka is now fully vaccinated. • K. MURALI KUMAR



WEATHER WATCH

RAINFALL, TEMPERATURE & AIR QUALITY IN SELECT METROS YESTERDAY

TEMPERATURE DATA: IMD, POLLUTION DATA: CPCB, MAP: INSAT/IMD (TAKEN AT 16.00 HRS)

Forecast for Tuesday: Heavy/very heavy rainfall likely at isolated places over Meghalaya, Nagaland, Manipur, Tripura, Sikkim, coastal Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Puducherry, Karaikal, Kerala, Lakshadweep, Andaman & Nicobar Islands. Thunderstorm with lightning likely at isolated places over Jammu & Kashmir, Bihar, coastal Andhra Pradesh, central Maharashtra and Vidarbha

CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN	CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN
Agartala	–	35.8	27.8	Kozhikode	1	31.2	25.4
Ahmedabad	–	43.6	27.5	Kurnool	–	39.5	29.2
Aizawl	–	29.3	24.0	Lucknow	–	41.8	30.2
Allahabad	–	45.8	30.9	Madurai	5	37.0	24.5
Bengaluru	0.2	30.1	22.4	Mangaluru	–	31.0	25.5
Bhopal	–	42.7	29.0	Mumbai	–	34.3	27.5
Bhubaneswar	–	35.8	27.6	Mysuru	4	30.0	19.0
Chandigarh	–	41.0	31.9	New Delhi	–	42.4	30.8
Chennai	–	34.1	26.9	Patna	–	39.4	26.9
Coimbatore	4	32.1	23.2	Port Blair	9	28.2	25.4
Dehradun	–	38.5	25.8	Puducherry	41	34.0	23.4
Gangtok	33.9	18.4	16.6	Pune	–	40.8	24.2
Goa	1	34.2	26.9	Raipur	1.6	44.4	27.0
Guwahati	4	28.0	24.0	Ranchi	–	38.8	25.6
Hubballi	–	36.0	23.0	Shillong	25	23.2	16.3
Hyderabad	7	36.8	22.4	Shimla	–	29.4	21.3
Imphal	13	23.6	20.6	Srinagar	0.6	24.9	15.4
Jaipur	–	41.3	32.3	Thiruvananthapuram	37	30.1	23.2
Kochi	3	27.4	24.8	Tiruchi	–	36.1	26.5
Kohima	12	22.0	14.2	Vijayawada	–	39.0	28.0
Kolkata	–	35.5	27.3	Visakhapatnam	–	34.2	29.2

(Rainfall data in mm; temperature in Celsius)

Pollutants in the air you are breathing — Yesterday

CITIES	SO_2	NO_2	CO	PM2.5	PM10	CODE
Ahmedabad	18	7	.36	232	175	
Bengaluru	7	–	.21	50	127	
Chennai	18	15	.72	33	45	
Delhi	22	66	.40	206	421	
Hyderabad	3	64	.18	52	84	
Kolkata	6	91	.10	37	37	
Lucknow	8	45	103	226	203	
Mumbai	4	14	.13	120	120	
Pune	13	36	.49	194	108	
Visakhapatnam	–	–	.10	–	–	

In observation made at 4.00 p.m., Greater Noida, Uttar Pradesh recorded an overall air quality index (AQI) score of 366 indicating an unhealthy level of pollution. In contrast, Maihar, Madhya Pradesh recorded a healthy (AQI) score of 31

Air Quality Code: Poor Moderate Good (Readings indicate average AQI)

SO_2: Sulphur Dioxide. Short-term exposure can harm the respiratory system, making breathing difficult. It can affect visibility by reacting with other air particles to form haze and stain culturally important objects such as statues and monuments.

NO_2: Nitrogen Dioxide. Aggravates respiratory illness, causes haze to form by reacting with other air particles, causes acid rain, pollutes coastal waters.

CO: Carbon monoxide. High concentration in air reduces oxygen supply to critical organs like the heart and brain. At very high levels, it can cause dizziness, confusion, unconsciousness and even death.

PM2.5 & PM10: Particulate matter pollution can cause irritation of the eyes, nose and throat, coughing, chest tightness and shortness of breath, reduced lung function, irregular heartbeat, asthma attacks, heart attacks and premature death in people with heart or lung disease

FROM PAGE ONE

Pratap Reddy is new city police chief

Mr. Pant is a 1990 batch officer.

A 1991 batch officer, Mr. Reddy hails from Andhra Pradesh, and is a B.Tech graduate.

He started his career as Additional SP, Hassan, and served in various districts before heading the cybersecurity wing of the National Association of Software and Services Companies (NASSCOM).

He also served in the Anti-Corruption Bureau in CBI Bengaluru and Mumbai, Inspector General of Police, CID, and Additional Commissioner of Police, Bengaluru.

Mr. Pant, who took charge as city police chief in August 2020 replacing Bhaskar Rao, had many challenging tasks, including the D.J. Halli violence, and the recent J.J. Nagar incident where a youth was stabbed in a road rage. The incident took on a communal colour after the Home Minister stated that the victim was stabbed to death by a Muslim youth for not knowing Urdu.

The other officials transferred include Alok Kumar, ADGP , KSRP who replaced Mr. Reddy and has been posted as ADGP law and order.

R. Hitendra, ADGP, crime and technical services, who was relieved from the post of ADGP recruitment, has been given concurrent charges of ADGP, KSRP.

M.N. Anucheth, DCP central, has been transferred as SP, CID replacing T. Venkatesh, KSPS.

Five poor families win 46-year-old legal battle

Karnataka High Court orders restoration of land granted in their favour

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

Coming to the rescue of five poor families belonging to the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes, the High Court of Karnataka has ordered restoration of land, granted about 50 years ago, in favour of legal heirs of original grantees. The court quashed the orders passed by the land tribunal and the revenue authorities, which had vested the land in favour of two affluent persons on their claims based on tenancy/occupancy rights.

This is a classic case of how grant made by the sovereign power in favour of persons belonging to the depressed classes are being cornered and usurped by the rich and the influential, the court observed.

Justice R. Devdas passed the order while allowing the petitions filed by the legal heirs of five original grantees from Devanahalli taluk in Bengaluru Rural district.

FROM THE COURT

The dispute was over four acres each of land granted to five persons in 1972 by the Deputy Commissioner under the Karnataka Land Grant Rules, 1969. The dispute arose way back in 1976 when two other persons claimed right over this total 20 acres of granted land claiming that they were tenants and sought occupancy rights.

After a few rounds of legal battle, the Land Tribunal and the revenue authorities granted occupancy rights to claimants. Both the tribunal and the revenue authorities declined the protection available to the legal heirs of original grantees under the provisions of the Karnataka Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prohibition of Transfer of Certain Lands) Act, 1978.

The court said that this case has also brought to the fore "the mechanical manner in which the Land Tribunals function," although they are entrusted with quasi-judicial powers.

Ponting out that no enquiry was made by the tribunal to find out the total extent of land held by such affluent claimants, the court said that the statements of the neighbours were taken as gospel truth and thus depriving the poor agriculturist of their land and livelihood.

Declining to accept the contention on behalf of affluent claimants on delay on the part of original grantees and their legal heirs in approaching legal forum, the court said that this case "presents a stark reality of how the poor who are without any means of livelihood are further mired in the legal tangle, which further expose such persons to answer difficult questions like-delay in approaching the authorities/High Court and the Supreme Court."

IUML men get life-term for murder

STAFF REPORTER
PALAKKAD

Twenty-five workers of the Indian Union Muslim League (IUML) were sentenced to life imprisonment on Monday in the murder of two Sunni brothers at Kallankuzhi, Kanhurapuzha, in Palakkad district. The court also slapped a fine of ₹1 lakh on each of the 25 accused.

Kerala to take GPS route for K-Rail survey

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

The Kerala government has proposed a GPS-based geotagging survey to determine the proposed K-Rail's alignment to circumvent community resistance and political obstacles to the ambitious semi-high speed railway project.

The K-Rail or SilverLine, which promises to whisk commuters from Thiruvananthapuram to Kasaragod in four hours, had run into strong headwinds after encountering hostility from residents.

The worry prompted them to turn out in significant numbers to oppose the laying of the "detested" yellow-hued concrete markers that demarcated the prospective line.

PUBLIC NOTICE

The General Public beware, in Violation of the terms of the Sale Agreement dated 26/09/2018, in respect of Sy.No.87/2A2 of Addevishwanathapura Village, Hesaraghatta Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk, measuring 3 acres, 01 gunta, the vendor / owner **Smt. Saroj Bagaria** D/o Late Nandaram Agarwal, has executed a sale deed in favour of M/s. Shrekara Infrastructures, No.836, 3rd Main, E-Block, 2nd Stage, Rajajinagar, Bangalore-560010, Rep by its partners V.Abhishek, K.V.Narayan, and B.S.Sunil in respect of above mentioned land. O.S.34/2022 for SPECIFIC PERFORMANCE is pending in Bangalore Rural Court. Hearing date 23/05/2022 in the meanwhile, this said M/s. has been negotiating for the sale of the sites formed in the land. General public are cautioned not to venture to accept any transaction with said M/s for purchase of any sites in the said land, because any such transactions will not confer any title.

Sd/-
N. Rajanna, Advocate,
No.16, Basement, 36, MKS Arcade, Bellary Main Road, Ganganagar, Bangalore-560 032.
Mob: 98455 43701.
Date: 16.05.2022 Bangalore

MAHATMA GANDHI UNIVERSITY of MEDICAL SCIENCES & TECHNOLOGY
JAIPUR
RIICO Institutional Area Sitapura, Tonk Road, Jaipur. Phone: 0141-2771777

NOTIFICATION

Admissions to DM/MCh Courses - 2021-22
(Mop-up Round-Online) in
Mahatma Gandhi Medical College and Hospital (MGMCH), Jaipur

It is informed to all NEET SS 2021 qualified and eligible candidates that the Mop-up Round of counseling on vacant seats of DM / MCh course is being conducted online by the Medical Counseling Committee of DGHS, New Delhi from 17th May 2022 to 25th May 2022. Vacant seat position in MGMCH is as follows:

• DM Neonatology	01	• DM Neurology	02
• DM Critical Care Medicine	03	• DM Neuro-Anaesthesia	02
• DM Interventional Radiology	02	• MCh Neuro Surgery	04
• DM Cardiac Anaesthesia	02	• MCh Plastic & Reconstructive Surgery	01
• DM Organ Transplant Anaesthesia & Critical Care	02	• MCh Cardio Vascular & Thoracic Surgery	01

For fees and other details please visit our website **www.mgumst.org**
Contact Nodal Officer : 9001890263 & 9001896578
May 15, 2022 Registrar

PUBLIC NOTICE

The clients of undersigned advocates 1.SMT. R.K. LAKSHMI NAGARAJA, aged about 58 years, 2. SRI. PRAJETH KAKAMBI NAGARAJA, S/O Late Dr. K.V. NAGARAJA,Aged about 22 years, Both the plaintiffs No.1 and 2 are residing at No. 2235,Milton Street North, Saint Paul, MINNESOTA, United States of America- 55113, Both the applicants No.1 and 2 are represented by their General Power of Attorney, Holder SMT.SARASWATHI .R.K. are the co-owners and in joint and constructive possession over the schedule property, filed Original Suit in O.S. No.2994/2021 on the file of Additional City Civil Judge at Bengaluru seeking for judgement and decree for partition and separate possession and other comprehensive reliefs, in respect of the suit schedule properties mentioned below in the schedule. By interim orders dated: 19-04-2022,theHon'ble Additional City Civil Judge was pleased to grant temporary injunction restraining the defendants from alienating/encumbering the suit schedule properties. The learned Court also restrained the defendants from digging, drilling and changing the nature of suit schedule properties. The clients also filed Civil Misc. No.586/2022(CCH-25) in the file of Additional City Civil Judge at Bengaluru wherein the earlier Compromise Decree obtained by the opposite parties by name Smt. Subhadra and others in O.S.No.6440/2019(CCH-25)dated:-19-12-2019 by playing fraud on my clients and the same cannot affect joint rights, title and interest over the schedule properties mentioned below to the extent of half share of clients of undersigned advocate. By order dated: 07-04-2022,the learned Civil Court was pleased to stay the compromise decree passed in O.S.No.6440/2019(CCH-25) dated:19-12-2019.

Since, the matters are pending in competent Civil Courts wherein the clients of undersigned advocate claimed half share and they hereby state that the schedule properties mentioned below, are ancestral properties left behind by Dr. V.S. Shankar intestate. The sister of Late DR. K.V. NAGARAJA by name Subhadra along with her sons and daughters in law created some documents and now making attempts to alienate the schedule properties which are pending before the competent Civil court. Since, there are orders of temporary injunction, over all the suit Schedule properties, public are large are hereby warned not to deal with the schedule properties. If anyone purchases or otherwise acquires interest over the schedule properties, contrary to temporary injunction granted by the Civil Court he/she is solely responsible for costs and consequences. It also amounts to violation of direction of the Civil court and are liable to be punished for contempt.

Under these circumstances, the general public are hereby warned not to deal with the schedule properties in any manner till the disposal of the Civil Suit by the Hon'ble Civil Court. If anyone violates the order of Hon'ble Court, it amounts to wilful disobedience of the Court order. He is solely responsible for costs and consequences. SCHEUDULE "A" PROPERTY:

All that piece and parcel of immovable property- site with house at No.108, having PID No.16-74-108,situated at II Stage, west of Chord Road,(measuring East to West 62 1/2 + 60 feet and North to South 40 feet) along with a house construction approximately measuring 30 squares with all easement and other appurtenance thereto and thereupon and bounded on the:

East by: Site No.88, West by:- 2nd Main Road, North by:- Site No.107, south by:-Site No.109,

SCHEUDULE "B" PROPERTY:

All that piece and parcel of immovable property-(House Property) bearing site No.500, situated at Block-III,II stage, Rajmahal Vilas Extension, ad-measuring East to West 28 Meters and North to South 15 meters along with a House construction, approximately measuring 36 square, with all easement and other appurtenance thereto and thereupon and bounded on the:-

East by:-Road, West by:- Site No.557, North by:-Site No.501, South by:-BDA Property,

SCHEUDULE "C" PROPERTY:

All the piece and parcel of immovable properties (Agricultural lands including converted lands) bearing Sy. No.3/1,ad-measuring 07-07-0 (Seven Acres Seven Guntas) Guntas of land; land bearing Sy. No.3/2 ad-measuring 31 Guntas, and land ; land in Sy. No.4/1 ad-measuring 1 Acre and 31 Guntas(One Acre Thirty One Guntas), all lands situated at Raghunathapura Village, KasabaHobli, Doddaballapurtaluk,Bengaluru Rural District, in all measuring 9-29-0(Nine Acres Twenty Nine Guntas) and enjoyed as one compact block along with all easement and other appurtenance thereto and thereupon and bounded on the :-

East by:- Government Channel and private property (shown as Govt Channel and land of Sri.L.D. Nagarna,,

West by:-Private Property, North by:-Raghunathapura Tank, South by:-Devanahalli Doddaballapura Main Road, Bengaluru.

Dated:-09-05-2022 SHANKAR S. BHAT
Advocate

SUN PHARMA

Important Advisory for Doctors & Patients

Sun Pharmaceutical Industries Limited had entered into an exclusive patent licensing agreement with H. Lundbeck A/S ("Lundbeck") on 23rd March, 2022 to market and distribute its own version of Vortioxetine in India under the brand name, VORTIDIF™ for treatment of Major Depressive Disorder (MDD) in adults. MDD is a serious and complicated disorder and looking at the patient's needs, Sun Pharma has made available VORTIDIF™ for patients in India w.e.f. 08th April, 2022. It is to be noted that Lundbeck holds worldwide patent rights over Vortioxetine. It has come to our notice that other Vortioxetine products have been recently launched or are likely to be launched in the market by many other companies, without any authorization from Lundbeck. In this context, this advisory shall serve as an awareness for all doctors that VORTIDIF™ is the only authorized Vortioxetine product available in India. The advisory is also for the attention of all infringers to immediately cease and desist from such unauthorized sale of Vortioxetine in India and not launch any such product. If already launched, such infringers are required to withdraw and recall the already launched product.

CAUVERY NEERAVARI NIGAMA LIMITED
(A Government of Karnataka Enterprise)
Office of the Executive Engineer, No.1 H.R.B.H.L.C Division,Gorur Hassan District.

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION Tender Notification No. 6/2022-23 Dated: 16/05/2022. (Two covers System)

On behalf of the Managing Director Cauvery Neeravari Nigama Limited, Bengaluru, the Executive Engineer CNNL, No.1 HRBHLC Division, Gorur invites tenders on **TURNKEY** and **ITEM RATE** basis from the contractors for works for general category contractors. The two cover tender procedure as per rule – 28 of KTPP Act be followed. The tenderers are required to submit two separate sealed covers, Ist Cover (Technical Bid) containing EMD with technical details of their capability to undertake the tender (as detailed in instructions to tenders Clause – I to XIV) and another containing Financial bid. The financial bid will be opened only if the tenderers are found to be qualified to execute the tendered work. The tenderers are advised to note the minimum qualification criteria specified. The maximum approximate amount put to tender Rs **55.76 to 66.01** Lakhs Stipulated period of completion: **2 months (including mansoon)**. Category of contractor eligible : **for contractors of PWD Class-3 and Above.** The contractors can request for e-tendering documents from **23/05/2022 11.00 Am** in the web site **http://eproc.karnataka.gov.in** link e-tender document on payment (non-refundable) for work towards the transaction fee (As per E-portal). While applying the contactors can pay the transaction fee in the e-procurement portal using payment modes - I Credit card/Direct Debit/National electronic fund transfer (NEFT)/ over the counter (OTC) up to **30-05-2022** up to 16th hour. Cover-I (Technical Bid) will be opened in the office of the Executive Engineer, No.1, HRBHLC Division, Gorur on **31-05-2022**, Cover-II (Financial Bid) of qualified bidders will be opened in the office of the Executive Engineer, No.1, HRBHLC Division, Gorur after approval of Technical bid.

Sd/- Executive Engineer, CNNL, No.1 HRBHLC Division, Gorur

TMB Tamilnad Mercantile Bank Ltd
Be a step ahead in life

Registered Office: 57, V.E.Road, Thoothukudi - 628002.
CIN : U65110TN1921PLC001908
Website: www.tmb.in Email: shareholders@tmbank.in
Tel: 0461-2321932(E), 2321929(E)

NOTICE OF THE 98th, 99th and 100th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETINGS AND E-VOTING

Notice is hereby given that the 98th, 99th and 100th Annual General Meetings (AGMs) of the members of the Tamilnad Mercantile Bank Ltd will be held on Thursday, the 9th June, 2022 at 11:30 A.M. IST onwards through Video Conferencing ("VC") / Other Audio Visual Means ("OAVM") without the physical presence of the Members at a common venue in compliance with the applicable provisions of the Companies Act, 2013 and rules made thereunder, read with MCA General Circular No. 21/2021 dated December 14, 2021, No. 20/2020 dated May 05, 2020, No. 02/2021 dated January 13, 2021, No. 19/2021 dated December 08, 2021 and No. 02/2022 dated May 05, 2022, to transact the businesses as set forth in the Notice of the AGMs.

The Notice of the AGMs along with the Annual reports for the Financial Year 2019-20, 2020-21 and 2021-22 are sent electronically to those shareholders whose e-mail addresses are registered with the Bank / Registrar & Transfer Agent / Depository participants. In addition, the Bank has sent the same to all the shareholders of the Bank through post. Shareholders may also download the copy of the Annual reports and AGMs Notice from the website of the Bank www.tmb.in under 'Investor's Relations' section and on the website of Central Depository Services (India) Limited ("CDSL").

Shareholders will be able to attend and participate in the AGMs through VC / OAVM. The details for joining the AGMs through VC / OAVM is provided in the Notice of the AGMs.

The Bank is providing remote e-voting facility to all its shareholders to cast their votes on all resolutions set out in the Notice of the AGMs. The Bank has appointed Central Depository Securities (India) Limited ("CDSL") to provide VC / OAVM facility and e-voting facility for the AGMs.

The remote e-voting schedule is as under:

Commencement of e-voting	Monday, June, 06, 2022 at 9.00 A.M. IST
End of e-voting	Wednesday, June, 08, 2022 at 5.00 P.M. IST
Cut-Off date fixed by the Bank (i.e., the date of determination of eligibility to vote by electronic means or in the AGM)	Thursday, June 02, 2022

Additionally, the Bank is providing the facility of voting through e-voting during the AGMs. Detailed procedure for remote e-voting / e-voting during the AGMs is provided in the Notices.

Shareholders may note that the Board of Directors in their meeting held on April 29, 2022 have recommended a final dividend of Rs.10/- per equity share of face value of Rs.10/- each (regular dividend of Rs.6/- per equity share + special dividend of Rs.4/- per equity share in commemoration of centenary year) for the Financial Year ended March 31, 2022 subject to the approval of Reserve Bank of India.

Pursuant to Finance Act 2020, dividend income is taxable in the hands of shareholders w.e.f. April 01, 2020 and the Bank is required to deduct tax at source from the dividend paid to shareholders at the prescribed rates. Shareholders are requested to update their PAN with the DP (if shares held in electronic form) and RTA (if shares held in physical form).

Shareholders may note that the agenda related to the election of Director can be taken up at the 100th AGM, being the last of the three AGMs, to be conducted together. Notice for candidature of Director will be informed to shareholders through Newspaper publication and the candidatures for Directorship can be proposed up to 14 days before the date of meeting.

In case of any queries or issues regarding attending AGMs & e-Voting, e-Voting System, you may refer the Frequently Asked Questions ("FAQs") and e-voting manual available at www.evotingindia.com, under help section or send an email to helpdesk.evoting@cdslindia.com or contact Mr. Rakesh Dalvi, Sr. Manager, (CDSL) 022-23058542/43.

For Tamilnad Mercantile Bank Ltd
S/d
Prakash Chandra Panda
Company Secretary

Thoothukudi
May 16, 2022.

KARNATAKA NEERAVARI NIGAM LIMITED
(A Government of Karnataka Enterprises)
Office of the Executive Engineer, KNNL, IPC. Division No.1, Kalaburgi.

No.EE/KNNL/IPC/DN-1/PB/2022 -23/292 Date:16.05.2022

CORRIGENDUM-I (THROUGH "e" "Procurement" ONLY)

Ref: This office tender notification no.198 dated : 05.05.2022

The corrigendum to the tender notification for one work coming under Lower Mullamari project has been invited under reference above. Due to technical reasons schedule of calendar events are modified. The modified calendar events are as follows.

1) The approximate estimated cost of work is Rs. **4,64,40,184.00,** 2) The bidders can access blank e-procurement documents from **17.05.2022 onwards upto 24.05.2022 up to 4.30** PM. 3) Last date and time for submission of bids through e-portal is **24.05.2022 upto 4.30 PM,** 4) Opening of Technical Bid is on 25.05.2022 at 05.00 PM onwards. 5) Opening of Financial Bid is on 30.05.2022 at 11.00 AM onwards

Further information can be had from the office of the under signed during office hours (Phone No. 08472-220590) and visit website www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in . All other terms and conditions as per original Notification.

DIPR/Kalaburagi/145/MC&A/2022-23

Sd/- EXECUTIVE ENGINEER,
KNNL IPC Division-1, KALABURAGI

Crisis and opportunity

Wickremesinghe must disprove detractors with quick measures for economic recovery

The adage 'every crisis contains the seeds of an opportunity' could not have been truer for anyone than for Sri Lanka's Prime Minister Ranil Wickremesinghe. The severe economic crisis, which set off indefinite protests against President Gotabaya Rajapaksa and his brother, (now former) Prime Minister Mahinda Rajapaksa, has pitchforked Mr. Wickremesinghe to an office that he had no chance of occupying until last week. Given the turmoil, Sri Lanka needed a government that would work towards stability and economic recovery. With Mahinda Rajapaksa resigning in the face of determined protests, and the Opposition leader unwilling to work under President Gotabaya, a rare opportunity opened up for Mr. Wickremesinghe. The former premier's political prospects had almost ended with the 2020 parliamentary election, when his United National Party won no seats, and he himself made it as its lone member in Parliament on the principle of representation in proportion to the total votes it had received across the nation. Much of the UNP's support base has also gone with Sajith Premadasa, his erstwhile party colleague, who now runs the main Opposition party, the Samagi Jana Balawegaya (SJB). Mr. Wickremesinghe finds himself in an extraordinary situation, as he is dependent on lawmakers of the Sri Lanka Podujana Peramuna (SLPP), the party of the Rajapaksas that is the target of public anger. The SJB has offered conditional support to measures aimed at economic recovery.

Mr. Wickremesinghe brushed aside a question on whether he had the moral authority to hold his office, contending that his situation was no different from that of Winston Churchill becoming PM with just four members supporting him to stave off a crisis. There are many questions on the political morality of his assuming office; there is some justification for popular resentment against him for easing the pressure on the President to resign. However, the need to have a viable arrangement to tackle the economic crisis is quite urgent. He has spoken about putting together an international consortium to ensure financial assistance for the shortage-stricken country. His only strength now is the goodwill of the international community, which solidly backed his efforts to bring about peace and development in Sri Lanka in 2001-02, when he negotiated a ceasefire agreement with the LTTE and held direct talks. There is talk of speeding up political reforms, even to the point of abolishing the executive presidency through a fast-tracked constitutional amendment. Yet, such speculation about far-reaching changes does not inspire confidence, as many such opportunities in the past had been squandered. Mr. Wickremesinghe has the additional burden of proving to his detractors that he is working for political stability and economic recovery and not for reviving the political fortunes of the Rajapaksas.

Each for all

The men's badminton team gifted an enduring memory to a country yearning for global wins

Sport is not just about individual excellence; it is also about the collective joy gleaned from a team's success when different individuals offer their varied skills and win together for the larger cause as representatives of a nation. India has always had iconic athletes with their fabulous milestones, but when it comes to team success in global events, the examples dwindle. To that limited cupboard displaying Olympic gold winning hockey squads featuring Dhyan Chand, the triumphant 1975 World Cup hockey team, the victorious 1983 cricket World Cup outfit led by Kapil Dev and the 2011 champion unit under M.S. Dhoni, Indian badminton added its golden chapter when the men's team won the Thomas Cup at Bangkok on Sunday. This was a feather touch that would be felt all through India's sporting history. Besides winning its maiden title, India also stunned fancied opponents Malaysia and Denmark, and defeated 14-time champion Indonesia in the summit clash. Previously, Indian badminton had offered sporadic joy starting from Prakash Padukone's magnificent All England victory in 1980. P. Gopichand emulated Padukone in 2001 and just as another drought loomed, first Saina Nehwal and then P.V. Sindhu proved that they could do far better than their male counterparts, winning titles and medals. Finally, the men joined the winning bandwagon with their blend of aesthetics, control and athleticism on the courts.

Be it 20-year-old Lakshya Sen, the seasoned Kidambi Srikanth, the combative H.S. Prannoy and the doubles team of Chirag Shetty and Satwiksairaj Rankireddy, India had men who believed that winning the title was in the realm of possibility. In the final, both Lakshya and the doubles duo lost the opening games, and yet they dug deep to hoodwink the Indonesians. Once a 2-0 lead was secured, history beckoned and with remarkable fluency, former world number one Srikanth got past Jonatan Christie at 21-15, 23-21 as India clinched a team triumph for the ages. It was not easy, Lakshya had a stomach bug, and he and others had to cope with the constant pressure of expectations at every hurdle. The coaching staff deserve credit and so do the inspiring footprints left by Padukone and Gopichand, through their achievements and their inputs to their successors. When the Indians infused magic into the feathery shuttlecock, they also gifted an enduring memory to a country forever yearning for collective wins. In the past, Indian tennis had its moments in the Davis Cup but team achievements were often linked to cricketers and hockey stars of a distant era. Srikanth and company have ensured that Dhyan Chand, Kapil and Dhoni's units will not remain lonely at the top. This surreal win could truly alter the badminton landscape across India.

A war that is shrinking India's geopolitical options

The main worry now is about how to manage a China that is attempting to consolidate the region under its influence

HAPPYMON JACOB

What was initially assumed in New Delhi to be a quick confrontation between Russia and Ukraine, the war in Europe is now raging on with no end in sight, and with its long-term implications yet unknown. As for India, the initial phase of diplomatic rush is over and its geopolitical options are shrinking as the war drags on.

Diminishing options

For several weeks during late March and April, it seemed as though the Ukraine war presented a number of geopolitical options for New Delhi to choose from. The high-profile visits to New Delhi, the entreaties of these leaders for Indian support for their positions in the ongoing war, and India's balancing act all seemed to propel the country to the centre stage of global attention.

And yet, instead of enhancing New Delhi's ability to make strategic choices in its broader region, the Ukraine war may actually limit the number of options available to New Delhi for at least three reasons: one, Russia as a key strategic partner is no longer available to India for balancing purposes. Arguably, into the third month of its Ukraine invasion, Moscow is more dependent on India today than the other way round. Two, Russia's sudden absence from the Asian balance of power equations has further enhanced Chinese influence in the region. By the time the war ends, whatever may be the shape of the global balance of power, the regional balance of power would have irretrievably shifted in Beijing's favour. Three, given that the United States and its western partners are more interested on the Ukraine theatre today, their focus on China is already taking a hit, if not yet on the Indo-Pacific. These factors, *ipso facto*, will limit India's regional geopolitical options.

India's biggest dilemma today is not whether or not to continue its engagement with Russia. That it would engage Russia in the immediate to medium term is clear. However, as a second-order fallout of the Russian misadventure, New Delhi has other dilemmas to worry about in the medium to long term.

Growing China challenge

Managing the China challenge continues to be New Delhi's biggest concern. For sure, the China challenge is not a product of the Ukraine war *per se*, but it has further complicated the China conundrum for India. While the Ukraine war has strengthened and revitalised the U.S.-led military and political coalition globally, it is bound to weaken the American influence in the Southern Asian region. While this process started even before the war, the war will quicken this process especially given how its preoccupations with the European theatre will further shrink its interest in the Southern Asian theatre. China is the biggest beneficiary of the U.S./western retrenchment from the region which gives it a free hand in it. So, for New Delhi, Moscow is no longer available for its pursuit of its regional interests, and the U.S.'s ability to produce favourable geopolitical outcomes for India in the region is shrinking as well.

For New Delhi then, the worry is no longer about how to please both sides in this war, but how to manage a China that is attempting to rapidly consolidate the region under its influence. How has it performed on that count so far?

GETTY IMAGES/ISTOCKPHOTO

Take the recent visit of the Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi to New Delhi. Reports indicated that the External Affairs Minister, S. Jaishankar, and the National Security Adviser, Ajit Doval, impressed upon Mr. Wang that the normalisation of diplomatic and political ties can only happen after the disengagement of troops from the Indian side of the Line of Actual Control (LAC). But Prime Minister Narendra Modi's decision to attend the BRICS Summit in China could potentially take the sting out of New Delhi's stern messaging to Beijing. In other words, the harsh tone adopted by Mr. Jaishankar and Mr. Doval when responding to Mr. Wang's normalisation offer could arguably be weakened by Mr. Modi's attendance at the BRICS summit, even if virtually. But then, was it possible for New Delhi, faced with limited geopolitical choices in the region resulting from the Ukraine war, to have shrugged off the Chinese diplomatic overture?

Exploiting China-Russia ties

While there is little doubt that in the longer run, a war-fatigued and weakened Russia will become a junior partner to China, India today does have an opportunity to get Moscow to nudge Beijing to stop its irredentism on the LAC. Consider this. If the Chinese side, taking advantage of the Ukraine distraction, heats up the LAC, India would have to turn to the West and the U.S. for support (political, diplomatic, intelligence, etc.). This would invariably hurt Russian interests. So it would make sense for Moscow to request Beijing not to activate the LAC while the Ukraine war is still on. Mr. Wang's visit to New Delhi and his request to India to get back to business as usual is perhaps an indication that Beijing also seeks to calm the tempers on the LAC. While China may have other reasons for seeking 'normalcy' with India (such as creating an impression that China is consolidating the South Asian region under its leadership when the West and the U.S. are busy with Ukraine), for Russia, it is important that two of its Asian friends – China and India – do not clash at least while the war is still on.

While this may be a useful way to manage the Chinese aggression on the LAC in the short term, this will depend on how China views its dynamics with Russia and that of Russia with India. Herein lies the challenge for India. If China were to stabilise the LAC at the nudging of Russia, it would also expect India to go slow on the Indo-Pacific, something India can ill-afford to do.

While, under normal circumstances, India could have utilised the many inherent contradictions between Moscow and Beijing, the Ukraine war has suspended those contradictions even if for the time being. More so, there is little India can do to enhance its geopolitical engagement with Russia until the war is over.

Consolidating Kashmir's calm

India's north-western continental strategy, in particular towards Afghanistan and Central Asia, too will get complicated due to the Ukraine war. On the face of it and for the time being, things seem advantageous to India. Consider this. For over a year now, the Line of Control (LoC) with Pakistan is calm and the violence in Kashmir has come down. The primary reason behind the current calm is because Pakistan was at first busy with consolidating its gains from the return of the Taliban, and now dealing with the unpleasant fallout from the Taliban's return to Afghanistan. More pertinently, New Delhi's presence from Afghanistan has entirely disappeared. So, to put it rather bluntly, it appears that the calm in Kashmir and along the LoC is a *quid pro quo* for the Indian withdrawal from Afghanistan. This might appear to be a good bargain; but it may not be so in the longer run. If this is a bargain New Delhi accepts, it will not only mean giving up its strategic interests in Afghanistan but also reducing its engagement in the Central Asian region as well at a time China is making feverish inroads into the region, right in the backyard of the Russian sphere of influence.

The consequences arising out of the Ukraine war will contribute to it as well. Had Moscow not been caught in the Ukraine war, it would have fended off Beijing's attempts to take over its backyard (in one sense, China is doing to Russia using economic means what the North Atlantic Treaty Organization has been doing to Russia using military means). During the December summit, India and Russia had decided on a number of initiatives focusing on Central Asia and Afghanistan. They are unlikely to be revived anytime soon, ceding further ground to China and Pakistan.

The combined geopolitical impact of the ill-timed U.S. withdrawal from Afghanistan, Russia's Ukraine war, and the rapid expansion of Chinese influence goes to show how New Delhi's geopolitical choices have suddenly shrunk due to the Ukraine war.

Happymon Jacob teaches India's Foreign Policy at the School of International Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi

The technical higher education market dissected

The AICTE should place the safeguarding of students' interests before the commercialisation of education

FURQAN QAMAR

In India, the technical higher education sector – dominated by private players – can be best understood only in market terms: be it the exponential growth in institutions or in enrolment as well the dynamics of the decisions made by the regulatory bodies. It is no accident that much of the growth in the technical higher education has been after 1991, when the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) became functional in its present avatar.

Supply exceeds demand

During the three decades immediately preceding the present (1961 to 1991), the number of technical higher education institutions had increased five times to go up from 53 to 277. During the same period, enrolment in technical higher education had increased six times – 0.37 lakh to 2.16 lakh. Importantly, most of the growth has been in the government sector. During the past three decades (1991-2020) the institutions have gone up by 40 times (at 10,990), with the intake capacity rising 15 times to touch 32.85 lakh. Much of this expansion has been in the private sector.

Going by the number of students who appear for the joint entrance examination and other entrance tests conducted by various agencies and different higher educational institutions, the total demand for technical higher education appears to be no more than 20 lakh. Clearly, supply far exceeds the demand for technical higher education, probably in the hope that the supply would create its own demand.

It is no wonder that a large number of technical institutions have been saddled with sunk costs due to their inability to fill their sanctioned seats. Their capacity utilisation has been falling for a long time now to become 53.53% in 2020-21, as compared to 62.32% in 2012-13. Declining demand notwithstanding, these institutions have been adding more capacity, though some market corrections seem to have happened during the past few years. The number of institutions and intake capacity in 2021-22 have come down to 8,997 and 30.87 lakh, respectively.

Student-teacher ratio

The AICTE prescribes a minimum specific student-teacher ratio (STR), ranging from 7.5 to 20, depending on the type and level of programmes and disciplines under its domain. As an overwhelming majority of the institutions are unable to admit students to capacity, their STR, at least on paper, has gone down from 5.5 in 2012-13 to 3.0 in 2020-21.

A lower STR could mean better quality but in their case, this only means higher cost adversely impinging on their economic sustainability. Their revenue models adversely impacted, they are unable to create quality infrastructure and human resources and become trapped in a vicious cycle of mediocrity. In market terms, they are the price takers and should be willing to offer their products and services at the lowest possible prices.

GETTY IMAGES/ISTOCKPHOTO

In a typical market framework, such businesses would either improve their quality or slash their prices to survive. Apparently, it does not happen in the higher education market, except during the past two years when market corrections led to a drop of 18.3% and 6.01% in the number of institutions and intake capacity, respectively.

Appealing to the regulator

Instead, they prefer regulators coming to their rescue. In the past they urged doing away with the requirements of a certain percentage of marks in the school board. Recently, they could convince the regulator to abolish the condition of studying science and mathematics at the senior secondary/intermediate level in schools, though the AICTE retracted from the decision quickly. Such suasions have obviously been intended to widen the catchment for admission. Institutions have also been helped by raising the STR – from 15 to 20 in the undergraduate programme in engineering, for example.

The Veblen Effect

These apart, technical higher educational institutions are differentiated and highly hierarchical. The Indian Institutes of Technology, the National Institutes of Technology, the Indian Institutes of Information Technology, the Schools of Planning and Architecture, the National Institutes of Design, the National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education and Research and a few select universities are the most sought after. Taken together, they can admit a maximum of 40,000 students. An equal number of seats may be available in high quality private institutions.

Being highly selective, they are the price makers. Left to market forces, they may resort to an exploitative pricing policy. They generally resist capacity expansion ostensibly out of fear of dilution in quality. Artificial scarcity suits them fine and at times enables them to use higher fees as a strategy for brand building. After all, the Veblen Effect (what is expensive is perceived to be excellent), is as applicable to higher education as it is to luxuries.

Such institutions hate pricing regulations that limit their ability to charge as much as they wish. They are naturally disappointed with the news that the AICTE is contemplating prescribing a ceiling limit on fees that these institutions can charge from their students. A bulk of poor quality institutions are happy about the prospect of a certain minimum level of fees being made mandatory.

Steps for the AICTE

Technically, the AICTE is empowered to take 'all such steps as it may think fit for the coordinated and integrated development and maintenance of standards'. Specifically, it can "fix norms and guidelines for charging tuition and other fees" as well. But would it be justified to prescribe a specific amount that must compulsorily be charged from students? Will this move not be construed as helping the institutes bettering their balance sheets, rather than safeguarding the interest of students. After all, the AICTE Act mandates it "to take necessary steps to prevent commercialisation of (in) technical education".

Finally, would it be advisable for the AICTE to prescribe fees for all technical higher educational institutions spread across the length and breadth of the country? Cannot it just provide a broad framework and guidelines for determining the permissible level of fees? The rest could be left to the State-level fee fixation committees. This would be in the true spirit of federalism which expects States to be a responsible partner in the process.

Furqan Qamar is a former Adviser (Education) in the Planning Commission of India. The views expressed are personal

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Letters emailed to letters@thehindu.co.in must carry the full postal address and the full name or the name with initials.

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The road from Udaipur

The grand old party seems to have shown some signs of a resolve to reconnect with the people (Page 1, "Congress will have a new rising, says Sonia", May 16). It is only a revived Congress that can take on the mighty BJP in the general election in 2024. Before that, the people need to be convinced that the Congress understands their needs and is ready to work for them.

KAMIL S.V.,
Androth Island, Lakshadweep

■ Connecting with the people, organising agitations on the streets and ushering in organisational reforms, which are the broad themes of the Congress party's Udaipur declarations, are not enough to aid its revival process. The party should ask the people what they need the most; this should infuse the party manifesto to gain favour with the people.

N.S.R. MURTHY,
Secunderabad

■ Criticising the BJP is of no use. The challenge now is to ensuring cohesive thinking and working to a plan. The political hurdles are immense. Purity, patience and perseverance are the words needed.

A.J. RANGARAJAN,
Chennai

■ As expected, Congress leader Rahul Gandhi made some strange statements ("Only Congress can take on the BJP, says Rahul", May 16). His line, "The Congress needs to re-establish itself by standing with the people instead of focusing on internal matters", was baffling. Unless the party's internal matters are sorted out there can be no path for the party to take. Does he expect the party to consolidate like magic after the Udaipur meet? His next point – "there are no shortcuts" but work through "sweat and hard work" – is amusing too. It is obvious. To begin with, Mr. Gandhi needs to convince the people that he is serious about politics.

T.A. IYER,
Mumbai

■ Mr. Gandhi's speech was bereft of any serious thoughts and seemed to repeat only the salient details of the Congress chief's address. He needs to learn from other Opposition leaders like the TMC's Mamata Banerjee.

K. NEHRU PATNAIK,
Visakhapatnam

Badminton glory

The Indian badminton men's team bagging the Thomas Cup is a reminder of the other transcendental moment of Indian sports – Kapil Dev and his team lifting the 1983 cricket World Cup. While the Indian sports fraternity basks in the glory of the moment, there are lessons to be learnt by other Indian sports federations: there was much planning (scouting for junior talent), preparation (arduous coaching with exposure to international competition) and execution of meticulous plans with an eye on the strengths and weaknesses of the opposition.

SURESH MANOHARAN,
Hyderabad

■ India's badminton lads have made us proud and we look forward to many fruitful summers ahead. This is the beginning of the 'youth dividend' in Indian sports.

NAND KISHOR SHARMA,
Bikaner, Rajasthan

Andrew Symonds

There was never a dull moment on the cricket field when Andrew Symonds was in action. He was explosive as a fielder, batsman and bowler. His passing is a sad moment for world cricket.

BALASUBRAMANIAM PAVANI,
Secunderabad

CORRECTIONS & CLARIFICATIONS: In the Ground Zero feature titled "An industry barely hanging by a thread" (May 14, 2022), under the subheading "In the farmlands", the reference to yield erroneously said four *tonnes* per bigha. It should have been four *quintals* per bigha.

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Focusing on public health engineering

Expanding the sanitation engineers cadre will help us confront water-related public health challenges

LIGY PHILIP

An open canal in Mogappair, Chennai. • VEDHAN M.

Globally, around 80% of wastewater flows back into the ecosystem without being treated or reused, according to the United Nations. This can pose a significant environmental and health threat. In the absence of cost-effective, sustainable, disruptive water management solutions, about 70% of sewage is discharged untreated into India's water bodies. A staggering 21% of diseases are caused by contaminated water in India, according to the World Bank, and one in five children die before their fifth birthday because of poor sanitation and hygiene conditions, according to Startup India. As we confront these public health challenges emerging out of environmental concerns, expanding the scope of public health/environmental engineering science becomes pivotal.

Expanding the cadre

For India to achieve its sustainable development goals of clean water and sanitation and to address the growing demands for water consumption and preservation of both surface water bodies and groundwater resources, it is essential to find and implement innovative ways of treating wastewater. It is in this context why the specialised cadre of public health engineers, also known as sanitation engineers or environmental engineers, is best suited to provide the growing urban and rural water supply and to manage solid waste and wastewater.

The availability of systemic information and programmes focusing on teaching, training, and capacity building for this specialty cadre is currently limited. Both as professions and as practice, engineering and public health have been traditionally understood as different fields. However, together, these fields can offer a wide range of opportunities for the development of advanced wastewater treatment systems, for understanding complex quality and monitoring processes, designing and managing septic tank systems, supplying good quality water in adequate quantities, maintaining hygiene and access to water, and ensuring that water supply is sustainable, including the study of relevant industry standards and codes of practices.

Currently in India, civil engineering incorporates a course or two on environmental engineering for students to learn about wastewater management as a part of their pre-service and in-service training. However, the nexus between wastewater and solid waste management and public health issues is not brought out clearly. Most often, civil engineers do not have adequate skills to address public health problems. And public health professionals do not have adequate engineering skills. India aims to supply 55 litres of water per person per day by 2024 under its Jal Jeevan Mission to install functional household tap connections. In this regard, expansion of the pipeline network, identification of sustainable sources of water which have water available year-round, installation of online systems for monitoring the quantity and quality of supply, and collection and treatment of wastewater become increasingly important. The goal of reaching every rural household with functional tap water can be achieved in a sustainable and resilient manner only if the cadre of public health engineers is expanded and strengthened.

Following international trends

In India, public health engineering is executed by the Public Works Department or by health officials. This differs from international trends. To manage a wastewater treatment plant in Europe, for example, a candidate must specialise in wastewater engineering. With the Government of India starting to think along these lines, introducing public health engineering as a two-year structured master's degree programme or through diploma programmes for professionals working in this field must be considered to meet the need of increased human resource in this field. For this, the role of medical colleges and public health institutes deserves a discussion. In the current scenario, optimisation and efficiency forms key words in all services. Refresher courses for health and engineering institutes with an updated knowledge in areas of environment science should be made available. Public health professionals can be groomed through in-service training.

Furthermore, public health engineering should be developed as an interdisciplinary field. Engineers can significantly contribute to public health in defining what is possible, identifying limitations, and shaping workable solutions with a problem-solving approach. Similarly, public health professionals can contribute to engineering through well-researched understanding of health issues, measured risks and how course correction can be initiated. Once both meet, a public health engineer can identify a health risk, work on developing concrete solutions such as new health and safety practices or specialised equipment, in order to correct the safety concern.

Public health engineering's combination of engineering and public health skills can also enable contextualised decision-making regarding water management in India. For example, wastewater management systems, especially decentralised and onsite systems, have to be designed based on hydro-geological data and observations of climate patterns. From promoting a robust understanding of processes, trends, and the latest technology in water and wastewater quality monitoring, treatment, and management, public health engineering can help decision/policy makers explore the available options. Given the population growth, diminishing resources and risky exploitation of natural resources, various State governments and not-for-profit organisations are looking to hire environmental engineers through whom public health problems can be addressed.

There is no doubt that the majority of diseases are water-related, transmitted through consumption of contaminated water, vectors breeding in stagnated water, or lack of adequate quantity of good quality water for proper personal hygiene. Diseases cannot be contained unless we provide good quality and adequate quantity of water. Most of the world's diseases can be prevented by considering this. Training our young minds towards creating sustainable water management systems would be the first step. Currently, institutions like the Indian Institute of Technology, Madras (IIT-M) are considering initiating public health engineering as a separate discipline. To leverage this opportunity even further, India needs to scale up in the same direction.

Ligy Philip is Institute Chair Professor in Department of Civil Engineering, IIT-Madras

An eye on achieving SDGs

Odisha has made good strides in implementing the 'climate action' and 'life below water' sustainable developments goals

AMAR PATNAIK

NITI Aayog's 2020-21 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) India Index detailed the implementation of the United Nations' SDGs in the country, States and Union Territories (UTs). It gave marks, between 0 and 100 points, to each region. In a significant marker of improvement, no State fared in the 'Aspirant' category, the lowest in the index. All the States managed to score above 50 points in SDG implementation, with 13 States featuring in the 'Performer' category and 15 in the 'Front Runner' category (the second-highest position). There was improvement in the overall performance of the country towards SDG implementation. India stepped into the 'Front Runner' category with a score of 66 points, though it dropped two ranks in the ordinal scale. However, our neighbouring countries performed better than us. India did well in implementing SDGs 6,7, 11 and 12, which are 'clean water and sanitation', 'affordable and clean energy', 'sustainable cities and communities', and 'sustainable consumption and production', respectively, but did not do well in many others.

Odisha's good show

While the national ranking dropped, Odisha saw a three-point improvement in its overall score and settled at 61 points. It topped in the implementation of two SDGs – 13 and 14, which are 'climate action' and 'life below water', respectively. In the 'climate action' SDG, which aims to integrate climate change and disaster risk measures with sustainable natural resource management into national development strategies, the State scored 70 points. Its disaster preparedness programme has been recognised multiple times by different UN agencies. Odisha managed to save 120.07 tonnes of CO_2 per 1,000 population, by using LED bulbs, against India's 28.04 tonnes. In the 'life below' water SDG, which aims to conserve oceans, seas and marine resources by preventing marine pollution and illegal fishing practices, Odisha scored 82. The State showed improved shore water quality and saw a 3.19% increase in the area under mangroves. Odisha's rankings in these two goals come across as a highlight because, as per the Asia and the Pacific SDG Progress Report 2021, the Asia-Pacific region showed a decline/regression in its commitment to goals 13 and 14 of the SDGs.

Odisha's improvement in these two goals and in the overall score can be attributed to several factors. One of the most important is that is has prioritised budgetary allocation towards these sectors. In the FY2021 Budget, the State introduced a Climate Budget, a first-ever feature. While highlighting the impact of climate change on various departments, including forests, fisheries, disaster management and agriculture, the Budget presented a way of tracking public expenditure for a clean climate. Odisha has been working in the area of climate change since 2010, when it put in place the State Action Plan on Climate Change. This was revised for 2018-23 and is under implementation.

In FY2022, the Odisha government submitted a separate SDG Budget, once again a first in India, indicating a significant development in its commitment towards implementing the SDGs. The SDG Budget provides cross-department linkages and shows the State's commitment towards implementing SDG 4 (quality education), SDG 10 (reduced inequalities), and SDG 2 (zero hunger). These goals will be provided 16.8%, 15.4%, and 10.2% of the SDG Budget, respectively.

Odisha also scored 83 points on SDG 15, 'life on land' (protecting, restoring and promoting the sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems). The increased budgetary allocation towards flood management and irrigation has also led to robust disaster prevention.

Hard work ahead

The NITI Aayog report presents myriad concerns to policymakers. Even with a significant improvement in many goals, India continues to be in the 'Aspirant' category for the implementation of 'gender equality' and 'zero hunger'. Many others, such as 'no poverty', 'quality education', 'decent work and economic growth', 'industry, innovation and infrastructure', and 'climate action', need a lot more work so that the country can be pulled up to the 'Front Runner' category from the 'Performer' category. Partnership is the key to achieve this. The current level of collaboration with States, UTs, civil society organisations and businesses should be further enhanced by overlooking any differences in political ideologies. There is a need to aggressively implement SDG localisation efforts at the district, panchayat and village levels so that implementation feedback from the field is available, besides enabling true internalisation of the SDGs by the community. Only work at the community level can make SDGs truly achievable and deliverable.

Amar Patnaik is a Rajya Sabha MP from Odisha representing the BJD, and a former CAG bureaucrat. Views are personal

STATE OF PLAY

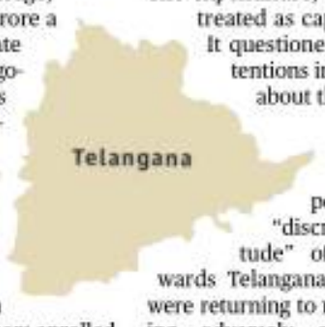
A financial quandary

Telangana is anxious as it has not yet been permitted to raise funds through open market borrowings

M. RAJEEV

The Central government's delay in permitting the Telangana government to raise funds through open market borrowings (OMBs) through the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) is turning out to be yet another contentious issue between the Centre and the State.

Telangana has been anxiously waiting for the Centre's nod to raise funds through OMBs, which has not been forthcoming since the commencement of FY 2022-23. The State has several programmes lined up, including the Dalit Bandhu scheme, under which the government provides a one-time grant of ₹10 lakh each to eligible Dalit families to start a business venture of their choice. Payments are being made to 400 beneficiaries a day on average, which amounts to ₹40 crore a day, according to the State government. While the government is meeting its requirements through internal resources, it is likely to feel the pressure when payments under Rythu Bandhu start next month. Under this scheme, the government provides ₹5,000 an acre to over 60 lakh farmers enrolled under the scheme, twice a year. The outgo for the first installment is likely to be of the order of ₹7,400 crore, which the government will face difficulties in mobilising if permission is not granted before the onset of the kharif season. The State had accordingly proposed to raise ₹15,000 crore through OMBs in the auctions conducted by the RBI in six installments. But it is yet to avail of a single tranche of OMBs as the Centre has not given its nod in line with the provisions under Article 293 of the Constitution.



The Centre's approval, a routine affair, became a complicated issue when the Union Finance Ministry raised questions about the State's finances and off-budget borrowings. Union Finance Secretary T.V. Somanathan raised questions about the borrowings in the name of different corporations over and above the limits prescribed in the Fiscal Responsibility and Budget Management (FRBM) Act with a rider that the Centre would treat these borrowings as part of FRBM norms. The Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) of India too expressed concern over the off-budget borrowings. In its report presented to the legislature in March, the CAG said the government was not fully disclosing its off-budget borrowings/liabilities and was circumventing the FRBM norms. Outstanding debt at the end of the year increased by 19% over the preceding year.

The State contended that the borrowed amounts were raised in the name of the Kaleshwaram Irrigation Project Corporation, the Telangana Drinking Water Supply Corporation and the State Water Resources Infrastructure Development Corporation. The expenditure, it said, should be treated as capital expenditure. It questioned the Centre's intentions in raising questions about the State's finances in a "retrospective manner," asserting that it exposed the "discriminatory attitude" of the Centre towards Telangana, whose finances were returning to normalcy after being adversely affected by the pandemic.

Special Chief Secretary, Finance, K. Ramakrishna Rao was upset about the Union Finance Secretary's claims that the off-budget borrowings too would be taken into account while assessing the State's fiscal health in line with the recommendations of the 15th Finance Commission. The State wondered how the Union official was speaking about the finance panel's recommendations when the latter had not given any such suggestion. Mr. Rao pointed out that it was the Centre which gave permission to the States to borrow ₹1.27 lakh crore outside the FRBM norms. The issue will hopefully be sorted out soon as the Centre has assured Telangana that the concerns flagged will be thoroughly examined.

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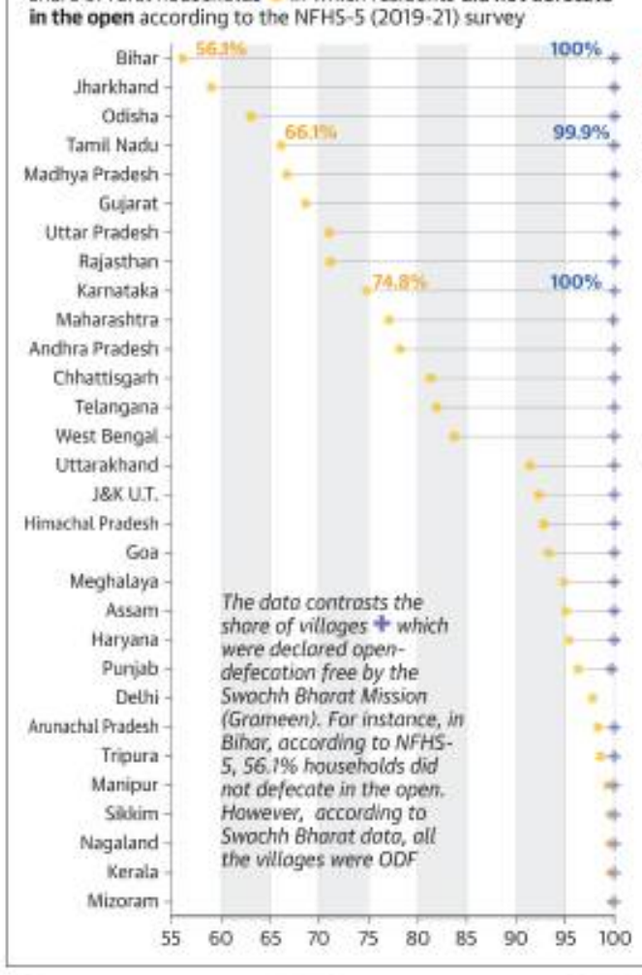
DATA POINT

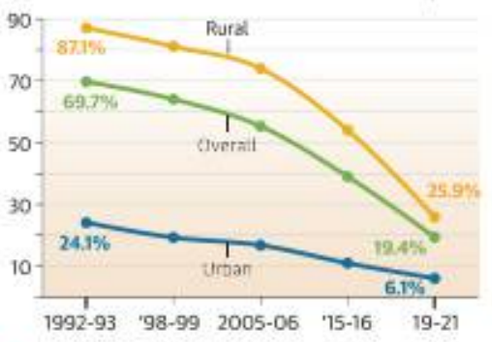
Still out in the open

On October 2, 2019, all the villages in the 36 States and Union Territories of India were declared open defecation-free (ODF). However, recently published data from the National Family Health Survey (NFHS-5) show that none of the 30 States and UTs surveyed are open defecation-free. The survey results show that residents in over 25% of rural households in India defecated in the open. In States such as Bihar and Jharkhand, the share of such rural households was higher than 40%. And among rural households, access to toilets varied widely based on caste and wealth. Among rural Scheduled Tribe (ST) households, only 65% had access to toilets compared to over 85% of non-Scheduled Caste (SC), non-ST and non-Other Backward Classes (OBC) households which did. Also, only about 52% of the rural and urban households belonging to the lowest wealth quintile had access to toilets. By **Sonikka Loganathan** and **Vignesh Radhakrishnan**

❷ State-wise share | The chart depicts the State-wise share of rural households in which residents **did not defecate in the open** according to the NFHS-5 (2019-21) survey

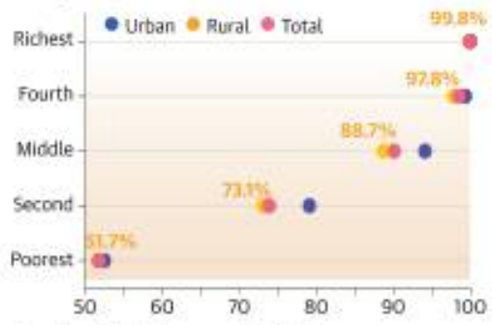


❶ Miles to go | The chart depicts the share of households in which the residents defecated in the open or had no access to a toilet facility. Though the share has decreased over the years, one in four rural households continue to defecate in the open

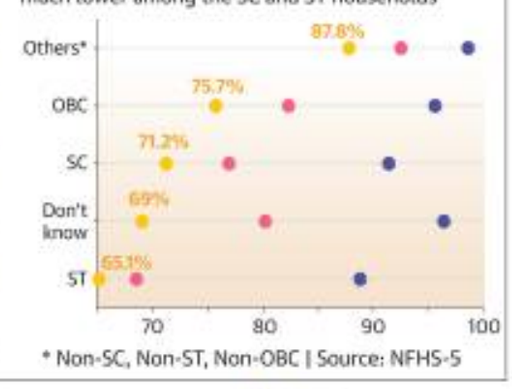


❸ Access among households

The chart depicts access to toilets among households across wealth quintiles (richest 20% to the poorest 20%). The access was much lower among the poorest 20% of the households



The chart depicts access to toilets among households across select castes. The access was much lower among the SC and ST households



* Non-SC, Non-ST, Non-OBC | Source: NFHS-5

The Hindu.

FROM THE ARCHIVES

FIFTY YEARS AGO MAY 17, 1972

Recognition of East Germany

The East German lobby in Delhi, which has been campaigning hard over the years for Indian recognition of the German Democratic Republic, has become active again following reports that there is now a good chance of ratification by the West German Bundestag of the non-aggression treaties with Poland and the Soviet Union. Despite increasing pressure from the left-wing of the Congress Party, the Government of India has been deferring recognition of East Germany until these treaties which open the way for a detente in Europe are ratified by Bonn. But now that the two Germanys have initialled the Four Power agreement signed last year by the United States, Britain, France and the Soviet Union for keeping open the access routes to West Berlin – and the principal Opposition party in the West German Bundestag, the Christian Democratic Union, has given a go-ahead for ratification of the treaties with Poland and the Soviet Union – the advocates of Indian recognition of East Germany are stepping up their campaign in Delhi.

A HUNDRED YEARS AGO MAY 17, 1922

Letter of protest

About the same time that the warrant for the arrest of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru was issued at Allahabad, orders were received in Lucknow for the transfer of Pandit Motilal Nehru from Lucknow district jail to Naini Tal. Pandit ji has now served about three weeks of sentence passed upon him. He was removed to Naini Tal last night in spite of his written protest to the superintendent delivered to him yesterday morning with a request that it may be communicated to Government by wire, if necessary. Panditji is suffering from asthma and is in very bad health. He has lost considerable weight. From the middle of April, he was permitted at his request to put himself under the treatment of Dr. Murarilal and Jawaharlal who are his fellow prisoners in Lucknow jail. Panditji has already considerably improved but the course of treatment was not completed as some vaccine injections had still to be given. Panditji said that in connection with his transfer to district jail, he wishes to make it perfectly clear that he is being compelled to go against his wish. This is not only wholly unnecessary in the interest of his health but is bound to reverse the progress he is making here under the treatment of Dr. Murarilal and Jawaharlal.

FROM PAGE ONE

Part of mosque sealed on claim of *Linga* find

Sayin Yasin, joint secretary of the Anjuman Intezamia Masjid, the caretaker of the mosque, said the object claimed to be a *Shivling* was part of a fountain.

Mr. Yasin said that Mughal-era mosques usually had a *hauz* (water tank) which also had fountains. The fountain was made of stone and was approximately two feet high and two feet wide. The "small fountain" was situated in the middle of a well-like fountain measuring 2.5 feet high and 5 feet in girth, Mr. Yasin said.

Mr. Yasin also said that the court had issued a "one-sided order" on the basis of an application submitted by the Hindu petitioners and not by the court-appointed commissioner, who is the neutral party in the matter.

Moreover, Mr. Yasin said the mosque caretakers were not handed a copy of the application submitted by the opposite side. Asked if the sealing of the *wazu khana* would disrupt daily prayers at the mosque, Mr. Yasin replied they were making arrangements for ablution in a bathroom.

Briefing presspersons after the inspection, the District Magistrate said the proceedings on the last day lasted two hours and 15 minutes. "The next order of the court will be known on May 17. All sides are satisfied and they have all cooperated," said Mr. Sharma, who refused to divulge any details about the inspection saying that only the court was the "custodian of the information."

Uttar Pradesh Deputy Chief Minister Keshav Prasad Maurya took to Twitter to express pleasure at the claims made by the Hindu plaintiffs on the discovery of a *Shivling*.

"No matter how much you hide the truth, one day it comes to the fore because 'truth is Shiv'," said Mr. Maurya, who tweeted with the hashtag "GyanvapiTruthNow".

"On the occasion of Buddha Purnima, the manifestation of Baba Mahadev in Gyanvapi has sent a mythological message to the country's eternal Sanatan Hindu tradition," Mr. Maurya said.

Last Thursday, the court gave its consent for videography inside the mosque by an advocate commissioner on the petition demanding daily access to prayer to a Hindu site Maa Shringar Gauri, which they said was located outside the western wall of the mosque.

The court had also rejected the mosque committee's demand to replace the advocate commissioner Ajay Kumar Mishra as well as overruled their objection to conducting the proceedings of the commission inside the mosque premises. The mosque committee had accused him of being "biased" in favour of the Hindu plaintiffs but the court found no merit in their argument.

Judge Diwakar had appointed the court commissioner after five women plaintiffs linked to a right-wing group, Vishwa Vedic Sanatan Sangh, last year April filed a suit declaring that they were entitled to have daily darshan, pooja and perform all the rituals of Maa Shringar Gauri, Lord Ganesh, Lord Hanuman and other "visible and invisible deities within old temple complex" situated at settlement Plot No 9130.

(With PTI inputs)

SCO terror meet starts, officials from China, Pak., Russia in Delhi

India flays Organisation for Islamic Cooperation statement on delimitation in J&K

SUHASINI HAIDAR
NEW DELHI

Counter-terror officials of Pakistan, Russia, China and four Central Asian countries met in Delhi on Monday at the start of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation's Regional Anti-Terror Structure (SCO-RATS) talks, the first such event in India since Russia's invasion of Ukraine and China's transgressions at the Line of Actual Control (LAC).

Crucial meet: PM Narendra Modi meeting Chinese President Xi Jinping during BRICS summit in Brazil in 2019. • PTI

The meeting, which was closed to the press, is one of a number of events planned this year as India assumed its role as Chairperson of the SCO-RATS mechanism.

In October this year, all member countries will send security forces personnel for joint anti-terror exercises expected to be held at the National Security Guard facility in Manesar. While India and Pakistan have close to no bilateral engagement, both countries make a point of attending the nine-nation SCO meetings, and last year, India had sent a delegation to Pakistan to take part in the 2021 edition of the SCO-RATS exercises. And all eyes will be on 2023, when India is due to host the SCO summit, which could see leaders of Pakistan and China participate, despite the tensions in bilateral ties.

The National Security Council Secretariat (NSCS) under National Security Adviser (NSA) Ajit Doval, which organised the meeting that included officials from the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) and the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA), declined to comment on the agenda and expected outcome of the meetings from May 16 to 19.

Meanwhile, India reacted sharply to a statement by the Organisation for Islamic Cooperation (OIC), of which at least six of the countries participating in Monday's SCO-RATS meetings are members, which had criticised the government's proposed moves on delimitation of electoral constituencies in Jammu & Kashmir.

"We are dismayed that the OIC Secretariat has once again made unwarranted comments on the internal affairs of India," said the MEA spokesperson in a statement, "categorically rejecting" the 57-member grouping's assertions.

"OIC should refrain from carrying out its communal agenda vis-à-vis India at the behest of one country," the spokesperson added, in a veiled reference to Pakistan.

Earlier in the day, the OIC General Secretariat issued a statement of "deep concern" over what it called India's attempts to redraw the electoral boundaries in Jammu & Kashmir.

Top Kashmiri leaders blame movie for anger

'The Kashmir Files infused hatred'

PEERZADA ASHIQ
SRINAGAR

Top leaders of the J&K-based political amalgam Gupkar alliance, Farooq Abdullah and Mehbooba Mufti, on Monday blamed the recent movie *The Kashmir Files* for "infusing a wave of hatred among youth in Kashmir", and claimed the situation in Kashmir was getting bad.

Farooq Abdullah

"I told the Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha that the baseless *The Kashmir Files* movie has infused hatred across the country and among youth in Kashmir. How would one believe that a Hindu would be killed and his wife asked to eat blood-soaked rice? Are people of Kashmir so lowly? Youth are angry here for how they are being perceived outside," former Chief Minister and National Conference president Farooq Abdullah said, a day after the alliance leaders met the L-G.

He said beating the drum about the arrival of tourists to Kashmir "does not reflect peace".

"A constable was killed. A civilian was shot dead despite him raising his arms in the air. Protesting Pandits were tear-gassed. I have never seen Pandits throwing stones. What was the need to use force?"

Meanwhile, former Chief Minister Mehbooba Mufti said there was a need to look at the larger realities of J&K. "It is not just about the killing of Pandit employee Rahul Bhat but also the overall situation where people are being detained day in and day out," she stated.

Woman shot during police visit to U.P. village

Man arrested on charge of firing

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
LUCKNOW

A woman was shot dead in Siddharthnagar district of Uttar Pradesh when a police team had gone to a village to inspect reports of cow slaughter. While the family of the victim Roshni alleged that she was shot dead by the police after she refused to hand over her son to the police during the raid, the police said she was shot by a local man who was trying to disperse a crowd.

One person, identified as Jitendra Yadav, was arrested on charges of firing at the woman with a 315 bore country-made pistol, said the police on Monday.

On May 14, a police team reached village Kodragrant Tola Islamnagar on reports of cow slaughter.

On May 9, a case had been lodged for cow slaughter and among the four arrested, two belonged to Islamnagar and the other two were from a neighbouring village, said the police.

On May 14, when the police force reached the village at 10.20 p.m., local men and women started protesting against the search operation and questioning of one person by the police, said Yeah Veer Singh, Superintendent of Police (SP), Siddharthnagar.

Meanwhile, Roshni's son Abdul Rehman claimed police came to pick him up.

'Border villagers' migration a worry'

Eastern Command chief promises action against soldiers for lapses in Mon firing

RAHUL KARMAKAR
GUWAHATI

The migration of border villagers has added to the challenges the Indian Army has been facing along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) in trying to match the rapid enhancement of infrastructure and operational capabilities by the People's Liberation Army (PLA) of China.

Lt.Gen. Rana Pratap Kalita

Lieutenant-General Rana Pratap Kalita, chief of the Army's Eastern Command, said this in Guwahati on Monday, while asserting that the partial withdrawal of the Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act from three north-eastern States has aided the redeployment of troops on the northern borders of the eastern sector.

"Migration of people from near the LAC in Arunachal Pradesh has led to shortage of people to work in those areas. The outmigration to the hinterland has been compounded by the unwillingness of people from outside to work in those difficult areas," he said. For the Army, this has added to the challenges of a tough terrain along the unstable eastern Himalayas and inclement weather in developing infrastructure and operational capabilities.

On the situation along the Tibetan border, Lt. Gen. Kalita said the complexities arise because of the differences in perception about the line that has not been demarcated. "But we have mechanisms in place in accordance with existing bilateral agreements and protocols to defuse tension and work towards peace and tranquillity," he said.

China has developed a lot of infrastructure in Tibet, which includes railway lines connecting border areas with the Chinese hinterland through Lhasa. They have also constructed many highways, certain roads in forward areas that connect the passes along the LAC, and upgraded airports and helipads, while additional areas have been taken to ensure the stationing of more aircraft and helicopters, he said. "We all are conscious of these factors, are constantly monitoring the developments across the border and taking requisite steps to develop infrastructure on our side," he said.

On the Nagaland's Mon incident that left 13 civilians and a soldier dead on December 4, 2021, Lt. Gen. Kalita said action would be taken according to the Army Act against anyone found to have committed lapses.

Stronger India-Nepal ties a must, says PM

The plot for the Centre for Buddhist Culture and Heritage was allocated to the International Buddhist Confederation (IBC) by the Lumbini Development Trust in November 2021. The facility is aimed at catering to scholars and Buddhist pilgrims from all over the world who visit Lumbini.

Mr. Modi and Mr Deuba held a round of bilateral talks and signed five agreements, including one between the Satluj Jal Vidyut Nigam (SJVN) and the Nepal Electricity Authority (NEA) for development and implementation of a 490.2-MW Arun-4 hydropower project.

The project is expected to generate electricity for Nepal, India and Bangladesh and has the potential to emerge as a major source of energy in the South Asia region. The SJVN has a 51% share and the NEA 49% in the project. The two sides followed up on the talks held on April 2 when Mr. Deuba visited Delhi.

Mr. Deuba also invited Indian companies to invest in the West Seti hydropower project in Nepal. Mr. Modi assured Nepal of India's continued support for the developmental and energy projects.

SC commutes death penalty in rape case

'Crime should be of a nature that leaves court with the opinion that life sentence will be inadequate'

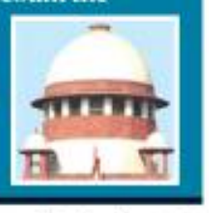
LEGAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

The death penalty should be resorted to by courts only if the crime is an "uncommon" one, the Supreme Court has held.

No mitigating circumstances of the convict should be able to overcome the aggravation or, for one, the brutality of the crime, the court explained.

The crime should be of a nature that leaves the court with the opinion that life sentence would be inadequate. There should be no alternative but the death penalty.

> For imposing capital sentence, the crime must be uncommon in nature where even after taking into account the mitigating circumstances the Court must be of the opinion that the sentence of imprisonment for life is inadequate and there is no alternative but to impose death sentence
> SUPREME COURT



"All murders are inhuman. For imposing capital sentence, the crime must be uncommon in nature where even after taking into account the mitigating circumstances, the court must be of the opinion that the sentence of imprisonment for life is inadequate and there is no alternative but to impose death sentence," a three-judge Bench of Justices A.M. Khanwilkar, Dinesh Maheshwari and C.T. Ravikumar observed in a recent judgment.

The case was regarding the "heinous and brutal" rape and murder of an eight-year-old by her uncle.

Justice C.T. Ravikumar, who wrote the judgment, said the nature of commission of crime, the victim being a relative and the hapless situation of the girl and the "shocking" injuries found on the child were all aggravating circumstances. But the mitigating circumstances also count.

Mitigating factors

"The undisputable fact that the appellant had no criminal antecedents, he hails from a poor socio-economic background and also his unblemished conduct inside the jail cannot go unnoticed. So also, it is a fact that at the time of commission of the offence the appellant was aged 25 years," the court noted.

The Supreme Court said it cannot rule out the possibility and the probability of the reformation and rehabilitation of the appellant.

"The long and short of the discussion is that the present case cannot be considered as one falling in the category of 'rarest of rare cases' in which there is no alternative but to impose death sentence," Justice Ravikumar reasoned.

The Supreme Court-Bench of Justices A.M. Khanwilkar, Dinesh Maheshwari and C.T. Ravikumar commuted the death penalty of the convict to life sentence with no remission for 30 years of the imprisonment.

All-party meet soon on caste census: Nitish

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
PATNA

Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar said on Monday that an all-party meeting would soon be convened on conducting caste-based census in the State.

Mr. Kumar said he had already informed the Leader of Opposition in the Assembly and RJD leader Tejashwi Yadav about this.

"Party representatives can give their suggestions at the meeting. It will be followed by Cabinet approval, and modalities like how many officials to be deployed etc. will also be worked out," he told mediapersons in Patna.

Kerala did nothing for endosulfan victims: SC

KRISHNADAS RAJAGOPAL
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court has slammed the Kerala government for doing "virtually nothing" for endosulfan pesticide exposure victims. The court said the State's inaction was "appalling" and amounted to a breach of the top court's 2017 judgment, which had ordered it to pay ₹5 lakh each to the victims in three months.

Five years since the judgment, the court has realised that only eight out of 3,704 victims have been paid compensation. Of the 3,704, 102 are bedridden, 326 mentally challenged, 201 are physically disabled, 119 wrecked by cancer while 2,966 others fall in the residual category.

"The Government of Kerala has done virtually nothing for five years. Besides the fact that the delay is appalling, the inaction is in breach of the orders of this court," a Bench led by Justice D.Y. Chandrachud observed sharply in its order in a contempt petition filed by those affected by the aerial spraying of endosulfan on cashew plantations in Kasaragod district.

The court noted that though the State government had, in January 2022, authorised the disbursal of an additional ₹200 crore, so far only eight victims have got ₹5 lakh each out of the allotted money. These eight happen to be the victims who had sought contempt action against the State in the SC.

All these years, the State seemed to have ignored others like them, voiceless, faceless and too poor to approach the top court, but nevertheless maimed for life by the toxin. "We fail to understand the logic or the rationale of the State government in disbursing compensation only to those who have the ability to move this court... There are a large number of victims to whom no compensation has been provided despite the passage of over five years since the date of the judgment of this court. Most of the victims, as the data before the court indicate, are from the marginalised segments of society. Many of the victims are in a pitiable condition to whom compensation on an urgent basis has to be provided," the SC observed.

Indian and French Navies jointly patrol Indian Ocean

India continues focus on expanding maritime surveillance and anti-submarine warfare cooperation in the region

DINAKAR PERI
NEW DELHI

The Navies of India and France concluded their second joint patrolling in the southwestern Indian Ocean last week, while an Australian P-8 maritime patrol aircraft is expected in India next month on a reciprocal visit, underscoring India's continued focus on expanding maritime surveillance and anti-submarine warfare cooperation in the Indian Ocean Region (IOR).

Diplomatic sources told *The Hindu* that during the five days from May 9 to 13, an Indian Navy P-8I aircraft was deployed from the French island of La Reunion to carry out "joint surveillance and patrolling operations" with the French Navy in the southwestern Indian Ocean.

Two French Floréal-class surveillance frigates, the *Floréal* and the *Nivôse*, took part in the deployment, with focus on anti-smuggling, a diplomatic source said.

"In order to increase the level of interoperability, French sailors were taken onboard the P-8I," the source said.

Noting that it is the second time that France and India have carried out "joint patrolling" out of La Reunion, the source added, "This type of operation demonstrates how Indo-French naval cooperation serves as net security provider in the region."

In a statement last week, the Indian Navy said, "During the deployment... the P8I aircraft will engage with French warships operating in the region and undertake coordinated surveillance missions in the area to enhance maritime safety and security in the Southern Indian Ocean, including the Mozambique Channel."

Maritime operation: Indian Navy and French Navy personnel at La Reunion Island on May 9. • TWITTER/@INDIANNAVY

As reported by *The Hindu* in March 2020, India and France had conducted their maiden week-long joint patrols from Reunion Island.

In the backdrop of increasing Chinese naval presence in the IOR, maritime domain awareness (MDA) and anti-submarine warfare (ASW) cooperation has emerged as a top priority for India and the Quad countries both in a bilateral and also in the Malabar naval exercise.

Last month, an Indian Navy P-8I from INAS 312 'Albatross' squadron was in Darwin, Australia, where it participated in coordinated operations in "ASW and surface surveillance" to enhance MDA with P-8 aircraft of the Royal Australian Air Force (RAAF).

"An Indian Navy P-8I Neptune worked with one of our P-8A Poseidons in mid-April over several days to conduct coordinated maritime surveillance patrols in the waters to our north, in another chapter of the enduring India-Australia security partnership," the RAAF said on LinkedIn.

The RAAF is expected to pay a reciprocal visit likely in June, defence and diplomatic sources said. In January this year, an Indian Navy P-8I participated in the multinational ASW Exercise Sea Dragon-22 at Guam in the U.S. that saw the participation of the Quad countries, Canada, and South Korea.

Indian Navy operates 12 Boeing P-8Is in two squadrons located at Arakkonam in Tamil Nadu and INS Hansa, Goa. A proposal for six more aircraft has been deferred for now by the Defence Ministry. "P-8I gives Indian Navy the reach and capability to undertake ASW missions far away and also flexibility which has been demonstrated on several occasions," a source noted. French Minister for the Armed Forces Florence Parly during her visit to India in December made a reference for expanding cooperation in the region and said that there were many tensions in the Indian Ocean, especially in the eastern part of Africa.

Parties worry over Varanasi court order

Leaders, academics express apprehension that it has undermined the Places of Worship Act

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

Opposition leaders and academics on Monday expressed fear that the order of a Varanasi court to seal a part of the Gyanvapi Masjid complex undermined the Places of Worship Act, 1991, which prohibits intervention in any religious place with an exception to the "Ram Janma Bhumi-Babri Masjid".

The Places of Worship Act mandates that the character of all religious places of worship should be maintained as it was on August 15, 1947, and no suit or proceedings shall lie in a court of law with respect to the character of places of worship. This effectively barred courts from entertaining cases that raise disputes over places of worship that existed as of August 15, 1947. The law further provided that such cases already pending in courts would stand abated.

Eye of storm: A file photo of the Kashi Vishwanath Temple Dham and Gyanvapi Masjid complex in Varanasi. • PTI

The Varanasi court on Monday directed authorities to seal an area of the mosque complex after lawyers representing the Hindu petitioners said a *Shivling* was found there during a court-mandated videography survey.

All India Majlis-e-Ittehadul Muslimeen leader Asaduddin Owaisi called it a repeat of the December 1949 order on Babri Masjid.

"This order itself changes the religious nature of the masjid. This is a violation of 1991 Act. This was my apprehension and it has come true. Gyanvapi Masjid was and will remain a masjid till Judgement Day Inshallah," he tweeted.

Senior Congress leader Salman Khurshid said that the Varanasi court's order clearly went beyond the Places of Worship Act, 1991, and also bypassed the Ayodhya judgment of the Supreme court.

"The Ayodhya judgment had underscored and upheld the Places of Worship Act. Justice Chandrachud Bench is expected to hear the Gyanvapi case tomorrow. He was also part of the Ayodhya judgement so one hopes that the Varanasi Court's judgement will be suitably reviewed," Mr. Khurshid said.

'Old disputes will open'

Faizan Mustafa, Vice-Chancellor of Nalsar University of Law in Hyderabad, said that once the Places of Worship Act, 1991, was removed, all old disputes would spill open. "The Constitutionality of the Places of Worship Act, 1991, is under challenge in the Supreme Court. If the top court strikes it down or Parliament amends the law, both of which is possible in a parliamentary democracy – if this happens, all the old disputes will at once open up for debate," Mr. Mustafa said.

List of masjids

PDP leader and former J&K Chief Minister Mehbooba Mufti said that the BJP supporters should once and for all publish a list of mosques they were interested in. "Instead of talking about the *masjids*, why don't they tell us when exactly will they be able to fulfil their promise of 2 crore jobs annually and what are they doing about inflation? Will demolishing the Gyanvapi mosque make everything okay?" she said.

Udaipur Declaration made available only in Hindi

Discrepancies in English version, says Congress worker

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

With the absence of an English version of the Udaipur Declaration on the concluding day of the *Nav Sankalp Chintan Shivir* raising questions, Congress functionaries were hard-pressed to offer an explanation on Monday.

In a first, the Udaipur Declaration document was only in Hindi and the *Nav Sankalp Chintan Shivir* stood out from all the previous such conclaves in that sense. Dismissing media reports that the Declaration was made available only in Hindi to reach out to the Hindi-belt States, an office-bearer told *The Hindu* that the English version could not be circulated among delegates and the media because of discrepancies.

Congress president Sonia Gandhi at the Chintan Shivir', in Udaipur. • PTI

Sources confirmed that an English version was read out at the meeting of the Congress Working Committee (CWC) that approved the final Declaration.

However, different versions are being given to explain what followed thereafter.

Leaders involved in the preparation process claimed that the 15-page resolution was very "poorly" drafted and would have had to be completely rewritten. However, there was not enough time to do so as the CWC meet ended well after 1.30 p.m. and the final session of the *shivir* was expected to start by 3 p.m.

A few CWC members, however, claimed that "minor" changes and corrections were suggested before it could be circulated among delegates.

"Most of our Lok Sabha members are from Kerala and Tamil Nadu and they couldn't follow what was being said in the Declaration. We have said that copies in English will be made available," a delegate, who did not wish to be named, said.

Ensure win in Gujarat, Shah tells BJP leaders

Brainstorming session of party ends

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
AHMEDABAD

The two-day brainstorming session of the Gujarat BJP ended at a private golf resort on the outskirts of Ahmedabad on Monday.

The session, which was attended by Union Home Minister Amit Shah, Gujarat Chief Minister Bhupendra Patel and other top BJP leaders, was held to discuss the strategy for the upcoming Assembly election in the State.

"The party leaders took stock of the preparations. We will form the next government with a historic mandate," BJP spokesman Yagnesh Dave said.

The party leaders discussed the feedback from each of the 182 seats, the performance of its sitting legislators and the State government, and how various schemes of the State and Centre were being implemented.

Historic mandate

The session ended with a speech by Mr. Shah who asked the leaders to ensure that the party won the Assembly election with a historic mandate.

The BJP has been in power in the State since 1995.

The party leaders are also said to have discussed the aggressive campaign

Amit Shah

launched by the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) and how its arrival could affect the State's political scenario.

"We will focus on winning 182 seats in the Assembly," said State BJP general secretary Pradipsinh Waghela after the session ended on Monday.

Poll mode

The BJP in Gujarat is already in campaign mode.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has been visiting the State once a month, besides launching new projects and initiatives via videoconference.

The ruling party has also inducted a number of Congress leaders, including prominent tribal legislator Ashwin Kotwal, who joined the BJP earlier this month. A few more Opposition party leaders are likely to switch over to the saffron camp in the coming days.

Change is imminent, says Kishor

AMARNATH TEWARY
PATNA

Poll strategist Prashant Kishor on Sunday said there was a need for a "a pre-Indira Gandhi Congress time" in the country.

On May 5, Mr. Kishor had announced that he would be embarking on a 3,000-km *padayatra* (march) from west Champaran in Bihar on October 2, Gandhi Jayanti. He had also said he may form a political party but would not be its president.

"I have been meeting people from all walks of life who really want to bring change in Bihar. *Acche log* (good people), *nayee soch* (new thought) *aur saamuhik prayas* (and collective effort) are the three pillars which eventually will bring change in Bihar," Mr. Kishor said.

Mr. Kishor appeared confident that change was imminent and could be replicated in other States.

"We will be working like pre-Indira Gandhi Congress time when all good people of society joined Congress naturally. And this may sculpt our effort of a political journey in Bihar, which eventually will bring a change in the State and, later, replicated in other States as well," Mr. Kishor said, hinting that his political plans extend beyond Bihar.

Octogenarian takes oath as Minister in Tripura

11 Ministers inducted in Manik Saha-led government

SYED SAJJAD ALI
AGARTALA

Narendra Chandra Debbarma, president of the Indigenous Peoples Front of Tripura (IPFT), the coalition partner of the BJP in the State, caught everyone's attention as he took oath as a Cabinet Minister here on Monday. The octogenarian leader, who recently fought off his baiters and retained his position in the party, held a magnifying glass in one hand and a paper with the oath of allegiance in the other.

Mr. Debbarma, who has not been keeping well over the past year, remains at the centre of tribal politics in the State despite his frail health. He not only ensured his place in the new Council of Ministers led by Chief Minister Manik Saha but also prevailed upon the BJP leadership to drop his sworn opponent, Mevar Kumar Jamatia, who held the important Forest and Tribal Welfare portfolios in the previous Biplab Kumar Deb-led government.

Mr. Mevar had pulled off a coup by replacing Mr. Debbarma as the IPFT president last month. But the veteran leader fought back and regained the post in an extraordinary meeting of the

Fresh start: Union Minister Bhupender Yadav with Tripura CM Manik Saha and new Ministers in Agartala on Monday. • PTI

party's State executive committee recently. Mr. Debbarma alleged that Mr. Mevar had hatched a conspiracy to merge the IPFT with the Tipraha Indigenous Progressive Regional Alliance (TIPRA), headed by the State's royal scion Pradyot Kishore Debbarman. "We will not abolish the party (IPFT) nor will we leave the alliance with the BJP," he said on Monday.

The former Director of the All India Radio's Agartala station did not join electoral politics till he retired from government service, but remained relevant in the State's tribal politics for over 50 years as an ideologue and in advisory roles.

The demand for 'Tipraland', a separate State for Tripura's indigenous population, was his brainchild, though some tribal groups blame him for erasing it by forging an alliance with the BJP ahead of the 2018 Assembly election. Despite criticism, he retains his relevance in Tripura's politics. The TIPRA chief had also made futile efforts to bring him into his party's fold.

New Council of Ministers

Besides Mr. Debbarma, 10 MLAs took oath as Cabinet Ministers on Monday. Of the 11 new Ministers, nine are from the BJP and two from the IPFT.

Ram Pada Jamatia of the BJP and Prem Kumar Reang of the IPFT are the only fresh faces in the new Council of Ministers. Mr. Prem, an aide of Mr. Debbarma, replaced Mr. Mevar. The new Council has representation from four major indigenous clans – Tripuri, Bru (Reang), Jamatia, and Chakma.

BJP is dividing the nation, says Rahul

'Modi govt. destroying the economy'

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
JAIPUR

Former Congress president Rahul Gandhi on Monday lashed out at the BJP, saying the ruling party at the Centre was dividing the nation and trying to create different entities for the rich and the poor.

He accused Prime Minister Narendra Modi of destroying the country's economy, which he said was strengthened by the previous UPA government.

Addressing a public rally near Beneshwar Dham in tribal-dominated Banswara district in southern Rajasthan, Mr. Gandhi said the nation was at present witnessing a clash between two ideologies. "The Congress wants to move forward while connecting with all, whereas the BJP works to divide, crush and suppress [the people]," he said.

He said the BJP was working to remove the history and culture of tribals while helping out big industrialists.

"We extend a helping hand to the weaker sections and they assist selected top industrialists," Mr. Gandhi said. He accused the BJP of ruining the economy by its actions such as demonetisation and wrong implementation of Goods and Services Tax. The UPA had worked

Rahul Gandhi

hard to strengthen the economy, but Mr. Modi had caused immense damage to the economic system.

The Congress leader held the BJP government at the Centre responsible for creating a situation in which employment was scarce for the youth and inflation was rising. He said the contentious farm laws were repealed after protests and alleged that a few industrialists would have benefited from these legislations.

Mr. Gandhi laid emphasis on the "deep and prolonged relations" of the Congress with the tribals and said the UPA government had brought historic laws to protect forest, water and land rights of tribals.

Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot said the Congress government in the State had accorded the highest priority to public welfare and social security.

NCP wants to 'finish off' Cong.: Patole

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
PUNE

Maharashtra Congress chief Nana Patole on Monday accused the Nationalist Congress Party of trying to "finish off" the Congress and of aiding the Opposition BJP since the inception of the three-party 'Maha Vikas Aghadi' (MVA) coalition in the State in late 2019.

Mr. Patole said that he had conveyed instances of the NCP's 'treachery' to the Congress's high command during the recently-concluded *Chintan Shivir* in Rajasthan.

"The way in which the NCP has been behaving with the Congress for the last two-and-a-half years since the MVA's formation, be it showing discrimination in the allocation of funds or poaching the Congress members to the NCP in the Bhiwandi civic body, the trouble they have caused during the Amravati bank election or the Bhandara-Gondia Zilla Parishad election. It looks like they have been consistently attempting to stamp out the Congress at the local and the State level," he alleged.

KARNATAKA STATE ROAD TRANSPORT CORPORATION
CENTRAL OFFICES, STORES AND PURCHASE DEPT,
K.H. ROAD, SHANTHINAGAR, BENGALURU-560027

NOTICE INVITING TENDER No 2 Dated: 13/05/2022

Tenders (Pre-qualification and or commercial offers) through e-procurement portal (https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in) are invited for supply the following goods:

Tender No	Nomenclature of Items/ Services	Tender Value Rs. in Crores (Approx)	Last date for submission of tender @17.00 Hrs
G-02/22-23	Supply,Installation of CCTV Camera	6.00	13/06/2022
G-03/22-23	Procurement of SMF Batteries for UPS	3.00	13/06/2022
G-04/22-23	Procurement of LED Lamps with Assemblies	2.50	13/06/2022
G-05/22-23	Procurement of GHT Bolt and GHT U Bolt with Nyloc Nuts	2.02	13/06/2022
G-06/22-23	Procurement of Synthetic Woolen Blankets & Linen Cloth	2.00	13/06/2022
G-07/22-23	Procuremmt of Automotive Glasses	0.19	13/06/2022
G-08/22-23	Supply,Installation & Commissioning of Plate Exposing Machine on Turnkey Basis	0.06	13/06/2022
SHORT TERM TENDER			
G-09/22-23	Procurement of Automotive Grease	14.00	30/05/2022

Addendum/ Corrigendum

G-16/21-22 - Procurement of LED lamps is been cancelled due to technical reasons (Notice Inviting tender no:3 Dated:10/08/2021) and G-46/21-22 - Supply, Installation & Commissioning of Plate Exposing Machine & Collator Machine (Notice Inviting tender no 06 Dated:21/12/2021) on Turnkey Basis is been cancelled due to technical reasons.

Further any addendum / corrigendum in respect of change in calendar of events, specification, scope, other tender terms and conditions etc, will be uploaded/ published through e-portal only.

NOTE: Interested supplies need to register in the e-procurement portal. For further information log into https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in. In case of further assistance, contact e-procurement cell (Phone. No. 080-22230960, 080-22234115). Interested suppliers may also contact e-procurement cell for training on bid submission. Mail to eprocurementhelpdesk@gmail.com for further information if required.

Sd/-
CONTROLLER OF STORES & PURCHASES
(Tender Inviting Authority)

DIPR/CP1523/AKAR/22-23

STAY PROTECTED FROM COVID-19, NO CARELESSNESS UNTIL THERE IS A CURE.
Wear Mask | 6 Feet Follow Physical Distancing | Maintain Hand Hygiene

KERALA WATER AUTHORITY. e-Tender Notice

Tender No : 14/2022-23/KWA/PHC/D2/TVM. KIIFB-Kizhakkanmala drinking water supply project - Construction of 10mld WTP at Kizhakkanmala , Construction of substation and office building, Supplying and laying of Raw water pumping and clear water transmission main using DI pipes, construction of BLL OHSR, Rehabilitation of tanks, interconnection works, weir at Moonnattinmukku, rising of floor and roof slab of existing well, supply and erection of raw water and clear water pum psets ,transformer etc including road restoration works. EMD: Rs.5,00,000/-. Tender fee: Rs.15000/-. Last Date for submitting Tender : 06-06-2022 03:00pm. Phone : 0471-2322303
Website : www.kwa.kerala.gov.in
www.etenders.kerala.gov.in
KWA-JB-GL-6-201-2022-23
Superintending Engineer
PH Circle
Thiruvananthapuram

KERALA STATE ELECTRICITY BOARD LIMITED - E-TENDER NOTICE

O/o the Chief Engineer (SCM), Vydyuthi Bhavanam, Pattom, Thiruvananthapuram
E-Tender ID:2022_KSEB_489917_1, PAC : Rs 30.60Crore/-,
Last date : 28.05.2022, 05.00 pm

O/o the Chief Engineer (IT,CR & CAPs), Vydyuthi Bhavanam, Pattom, Thiruvananthapuram
Expression of Interest
E-Tender ID : 2022_KSEB_489840_1, Last date : 31.05.2022, 05.00 pm

Visit www.etenders.kerala.gov.in and www.kseb.in
Ref: PR/MC1/E354/E-Tender/2022

राजस्थान स्कूल शिक्षा परिषद
द्वि- तल, ब्लॉक-4, डॉ.एस. राधाकृष्णन शिक्षा संकुल, जवाहर लाल नेहरू मार्ग, जयपुर।
फोन नं: 0141-2700489, E-Mail:- rajsmsa.civil@rajasthan.gov.in

क्रमांक :- F-5(1)(58)RCSCE/Civil /SMSA/ALL Other Scheme NIT 2021-22/NIT/2022/D-830
दिनांक :- 13/05/2022

ई–निविदा सूचना संख्या 03 (सिविल)/2022–23
(विद्यालयों में निर्माण कार्यों हेतु)

राज्य एवं केन्द्र सरकार के राजकीय/अर्द्धशासकीय/स्वायत्तशासी निकायों में सक्षम श्रेणी में निर्माण कार्यों हेतु पंजीकृत संवेदकों से विभिन्न योजनान्तर्गत स्वीकृत 117 निर्माण कार्यों की राशि रू. 5045.13 लाख (प्रति कार्य की राशि रूपये 3.00 लाख से 449.70 लाख के मध्य) बाबत् कार्यवार ई-टेण्डरिंग के माध्यम से ई-निविदाएँ 20/05/2022 प्रातः 10.00 बजे से 06/06/2022 को सायं 6.00 बजे तक आमंत्रित की जाती है।

UBN No. :- RSE2223WSOB00261
- निविदा से सम्बन्धित समस्त विस्तृत विवरण वेबसाईट http://rajsmsa.nic.in http://sppp.rajasthan.gov.in एवं http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in पर देखा जा सकता है।
- निविदा से सम्बन्धित प्रक्रिया जिला परियोजना समन्वयक, समग्र शिक्षा कार्यालय सम्बन्धित जिला के स्तर से की जायेगी।

राज.संवाद/सी/22/1821
राज्य परियोजना निदेशक, समग्र शिक्षा

TIRUMALA TIRUPATI DEVASTHANAMS : TIRUPATI
NOTICE INVITING TENDER

Adv.No. (1) TTD-44021(34)/5/2022-Press SEC TTD.
(2) TTD-44021(34)/6/ 2022-Press SEC TTD.
(3) TTD-44021(34)/7/2022-Press SEC TTD.
(4) TTD-44021(34)/8/2022-Press SEC TTD.
(5) TTD-44021(34)/9/2022-Press SEC TTD.
(6) TTD-44021(34)/10/2022-Press SEC TTD.

e-Tenders are invited for Printing and Supply of 12 Sheet Calendars (13,00,000 Nos.), Diary (Deluxe) (8,00,000 Nos.), Diary (Small) (1,50,000 Nos.), Desktop / Table - Top Calendars (1,00,000 Nos.), 6 Sheet Calendar (Special Edition) with 2 months date pad (50,000 Nos.) of 2023 and In-House Calendars SV (Big) 1,50,000 Nos., SV & SP 1,75,000 Nos. and Telugu Panchangam Calendars 2,50,000 Nos. of -2023 as per Tender Notice & Details. Please log on to the web site http://www.tirumala.org and https://tender.ap.eprocurement.gov.in. For further details contact: 0877-2264355 (or) 0877-2264292.

Roc.No.PR4/13942/Adv.No.57/PRO/2022, Dated:16-05-2022 EXECUTIVE OFFICER

TOURISM CORPORATION OF GUJARAT LIMITED (TCGL)
(A Government of Gujarat Undertaking)
Block No. 16, 4th Floor, Udyog Bhavan, Sector 11, Gandhinagar – 382011
Phone: +91-79-23977200, 23977231, 23220002, Fax: 91-79-23977201

Tender Notice

Bids are invited from reputed and experienced Agencies for the **"Selection of a Social Media and Digital Marketing Agency"**. The project requirements, technical specifications, eligibility criteria, selection process, etc. are included in the Tender document published on the website:https://www.nprocure.com/ and **https://www.nprocure.com/** and **https://www.gujarattourism.com.** The last date for submission of the **Financial Bid is 07/06/2022 up to 3:00 pm. and Technical Bid is 09/06/2022 up to 3:00 pm.** The Financial Bid shall be uploaded in n-procure website only.

Managing Director

TOURISM CORPORATION OF GUJARAT LIMITED (TCGL)
(A Government of Gujarat Undertaking)
Udyog Bhavan, Sector-11
Gandhinagar

Tender Notice

The tenders are invited for Empanelment of Experienced agencies & start up Agencies for Conceptualizing, Designing and Execution of High-Quality Film/Documentary/Tvc & Various Other Similar Works.

The interested bidders/agencies may download the tender document from the website: www.nprocure.com from 17/05/2022 onwards. Last date of bid online submission is 07/06/2022 till 18.00 hrs. and technical bid submission is 09/06/2022 till 12.00 hrs. Tender may also be referred on www.gujarattourism.com

Managing Director of TCGL reserves the right to reject or accept any or all tenders without assigning any reason thereof.

Managing Director

Corbevax market price down to ₹250

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD

Vaccine maker Biological E. (BE) has reduced the price of COVID-19 vaccine Corbevax to ₹250 a dose for private vaccination centres, down from ₹840.

For end users, the new price, including taxes and administration charges, will be ₹400 as against ₹990.

The price has been lowered to make the vaccine more affordable and help increase the reach to protect more children against the virus. So far, 43.9 million doses of Corbevax have been administered to children across the country. BE said it has supplied close to 100 million doses to the government of India.

The Corbevax vaccination slot can be booked through the CoWIN app or CoWIN portal for children aged 12 to 17. The reduction in price comes within weeks of the vaccine being granted emergency-use authorisation for children aged five to 12, the BE said on Monday. Sources said the government had to announce the date from which children in that age group can be vaccinated.

The recombinant protein sub-unit vaccine for the novel coronavirus was developed by Biological E in collaboration with Texas Children's Hospital and Baylor College of Medicine. Corbevax is also available in a single-dose vial

IndiGo 'mishandled' passengers: DGCA

Civil aviation authority issues show-cause notice over denial of boarding to a person with special needs

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

Days after an uproar over IndiGo denying boarding to a passenger with special needs on a flight from Ranchi, the DGCA's fact-finding committee has *prima facie* found that the airline mishandled passengers and violated its rules.

"The findings of the committee *prima facie* indicate inappropriate handling of passengers by the IndiGo staff thereby resulting in certain non-conformances with the applicable regulations," according to a statement issued by the DGCA.

IndiGo has been issued a show-cause notice to explain within the next 10 days why "suitable enforcement action should not be taken against them". The airline will also have the opportunity to present its side of the story in a personal hearing.

Last Monday, the DGCA formed a three-member fact-finding committee following widespread outrage over IndiGo refusing to board a wheelchair-borne adolescent with special needs who was accompanied by his parents for a flight from Ranchi to Hyderabad on May 7.

The airline said that the passenger was in "panic", and therefore could be a threat to flight safety.

The family was accommodated on another IndiGo flight the following day.

The fact-finding team was formed after Civil Aviation Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia responded on Twitter that there was "zero tolerance" towards such treatment met-

Indigo has said that it made the best possible decision during a difficult situation. • FILE PHOTO

ed out to passengers, and that he would personally inquire into the incident.

CEO statement

IndiGo's CEO Ronojoy Dutta, however, backed his airline manager, and said "we made the best possible decision in a difficult situation" since the issue concerned flight safety.

The regulations the DGCA is looking into is the Civil Aviation Requirements on "Carriage by Air – Persons with Disability and/or Persons with Reduced Mobility". According to these rules, when a person with disability is denied boarding, the airline will have to specify in writing the basis for such a decision.

Airlines have to also provide assistance in seamless travel up to the aircraft during departure, and to the arrival terminal exit after the plane lands at the destination airport. Passengers with disabilities have to be boarded and disembarked separately, and efforts have to be made to ensure quick clearance for them and their baggage.

Eyewitness accounts suggest that the passenger in question appeared hassled after a long drive to the airport as well as during check-in and security check, and was in discomfort when he and his family arrived at the boarding gate.

Monsoon advances over Andaman islands

Four-month seasonal rain begins

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI

The southwest monsoon has advanced over the Andaman and Nicobar islands on Monday, the India Meteorological Department said here, signalling the start of the four-month seasonal rains that are crucial to the largely agri-dependent economy.

The Andaman and Nicobar islands and adjoining areas have been experiencing rainfall due to strengthening south-westerly winds in the lower tropospheric levels, the weather office said.

"Conditions are favourable for further advance of southwest monsoon into some more parts of south Bay of Bengal, entire Andaman Sea & Andaman Islands and some parts of east-central Bay of Bengal during next 2-3 days," the IMD said in a statement here.

The presence of cyclonic circulations over Lakshadweep and north Tamil Nadu coast are expected to bring fairly widespread monsoon rainfall with isolated thunderstorm/ lightning/gusty winds with isolated heavy to very heavy falls over Kerala, coastal and south interior Karnataka during the next five days, it said.

The weather office said isolated heavy rainfall was expected over Tamil Nadu from Monday to Wednesday and over Lakshadweep area over the next two days. Rain is also expected over coastal Karnataka.

'Assistive aids remain inaccessible'

WHO and UNICEF report says 1 billion people with disabilities at a disadvantage

BINDU SHAJAN PERAPPADAN
NEW DELHI

More than 2.5 billion people need one or more assistive products, such as wheelchairs, hearing aids, or apps that support communication and cognition and yet a billion of them are denied access, particularly in low- and middle-income countries, where access can be as low as 3% of the need for these life-changing products, said a report released on Monday by the World Health Organization and UNICEF.

The "Global Report on Assistive Technology" presents evidence on the need for and access to assistive products and provides a series of recommendations to expand availability and access.

Rajib Dasgupta, chairperson at the Centre of Social Medicine and Community Health, Jawaharlal Nehru University, is one of the contributors to the report. Speaking about the condition in India, Dr. Dasgupta said that the 2011 Census puts the national estimate of the number of people with disabilities at 2.21% of the total population (26.8 million persons), including persons

Hearing aids, wheelchairs and assistive apps can empower the disabled.

with visual, hearing, speech, locomotor and mental disabilities with the majority in the 19-59 age group.

Of the people with disabilities, 49% are literate, 34% employed and 75% live in rural areas.

Growing numbers

The country's disabled population increased by 22.4% between 2001 and 2011 census periods; the total population increased by 17.6% however.

Balram Bhargava, Director-General, Indian Council of Medical Research and Shweta Sharma, public health consultant, also contributed to the report.

The report notes that the number of people in need of one or more assistive products is likely to rise to 3.5 billion by 2050, due to populations aging and the prevalence of non-communicable diseases rising across the world. Also, affordability is a major barrier to access, the report notes.

A survey of 70 countries featured in the report found large gaps in service provision and trained workforce for assistive technology, especially in the domains of cognition, communication and self-care.

"Assistive technology is a life changer – it opens the door to education for children with impairments, employment and social interaction for adults living with disabilities, and an independent life of dignity for older persons," said WHO Director-General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus.

Kovind becomes first Indian President to visit Jamaica

He will address Parliament session of the Caribbean country

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
KINGSTON

President Ram Nath Kovind has arrived in Jamaica for a state visit, the first by any Indian President to the Caribbean country, during which he will hold talks with his counterpart Governor-General Patrick Allen and Prime Minister Andrew Holness on the entire gamut of the multifaceted relationship between the two countries.

The President, accompanied by his wife Savita Kovind, arrived here on Sunday on the first leg of his two-nation tour that will also take him to St. Vincent and Grenadines.

"The Presidential visit is happening in the 60th anniversary year of the establishment of diplomatic relations between the two countries. The President was accorded a guard of honour on his arrival," the President's Office said.

Warm welcome: President Ram Nath Kovind being welcomed on landing in Kingston. • PTI

Mr. Kovind will address a joint sitting of the two Houses of the Jamaican Parliament, according to the Ministry of External Affairs. The President will be in Jamaica till May 18.

Report flags risk of fortified rice for some

Overload of iron can cause health problems for tribal populations

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

Distribution of iron fortified rice through government schemes as a "silver bullet" to curb anaemia must stop in States such as Jharkhand which have large tribal populations that suffer from sickle-cell anaemia, thalassemia, and tuberculosis, warn activists. For such people, an overload of iron can create adverse health issues, they say.

In a fact-finding exercise, the activists discovered that neither field functionaries nor beneficiaries had been educated about the potential harms, and there were no warning labels despite the food regulator's rules on fortified foods.

According to a report prepared jointly by the Alliance for Sustainable and Holistic Agriculture (ASHA-Kisan Swaraj) and the Right To Food Campaign, Jharkhand, where fortified rice is being distributed under Central government-funded schemes such as the public distribution system (PDS); PM-Poshan (erstwhile mid-day meal scheme) at schools; and Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS or *anganwadi* services), consent is not being obtained from beneficiaries.

PDS dealers and frontline workers too have not been informed beforehand about the potential harmful effects of fortified rice.

The fact-finding team discovered that among the beneficiaries who received fortified rice in the State were also patients diagnosed with thalassemia, sickle cell disease, and tuberculosis, and there may be many more who have been not diagnosed yet.

Thalassemia, sickle cell anaemia and malaria are conditions where there is already excess iron in the body, whereas TB patients are unable to absorb iron. Consumption of iron-fortified foods among patients of these diseases can reduce immunity and functionality of organs.

Jharkhand is an endemic zone of sickle cell disorder and thalassemia, with a prevalence of 8%-10%, which is twice the national average. Jharkhand is also an endemic zone for malaria – in 2020, the State ranked third in the country in malaria deaths.

"The right to informed choices about one's food is a basic right. The right to know what one is consuming is also a basic right. In the case of rice fortification, it is seen that no prior informed consent was ever sought from the recipients," notes the report.

"There is a need for precision because no nutrient taken in excess will do you good. Universal fortification is not the answer for nutrition deficiencies," said Dr. Anura Kurpad, Professor, St. John's Medical College and Hospital, Bengaluru.

International Museum Day events begin

Extended hours and free entry offered at several institutions

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

The Culture Ministry on Monday launched celebrations commemorating International Museum Day with a five-day-long programme of events, including new exhibitions at the National Gallery of Modern Art (NGMA), live performances at the National Museum (NM), and extended hours and free entry at many other museums.

Though International Museum Day falls on Wednesday, it is celebrated with a week of activities. Apart from the NGMA Delhi and NM, the programme includes activities and free entry at NGMA Mumbai and Bengaluru; Indian Museum and Victoria Memorial in Kolkata; Salar Jung Museum in Hyderabad; the Allahabad Museum in Prayagraj; and at 24 locations of the National Council of Science Museums.

Full of grace: Dancer Dona Ganguly leads a workshop, ahead of International Museum Day, in Kolkata. • PTI

At NGMA, Delhi, a series of guided walking tours and art workshops based on the works of Jamini Roy and Amrita Sher-Gil as well as a "night at the museum" for underprivileged children during the extended hours will be organised, the Ministry said.

On Day 1, an exhibition on Brazil titled 'Brasilia 60+ and the construction of modern Brazil' was inaugurated by Union Housing and Urban Affairs Minister Hardeep Singh Puri on Monday.

The National Museum will remain open from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday.

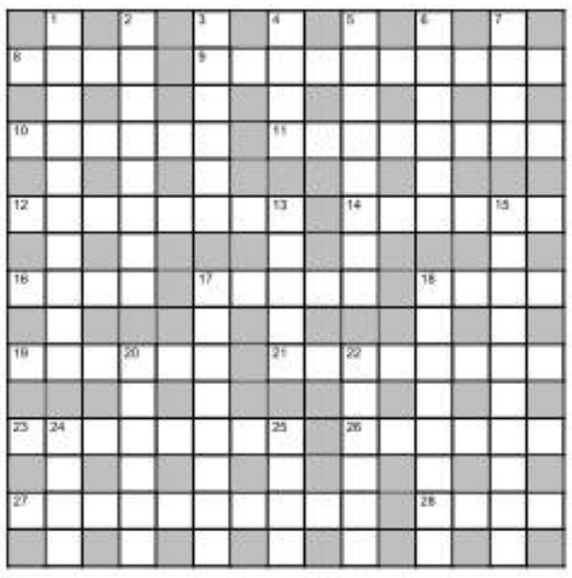
Walks guided by curators, hands-on activities for children and a session with conservators were also included in the programme for the week.

TH CROSSWORD + 13558

(set by Incognito)

Display keystrokes of genius. Type your answer in our online grids. @ *https://qrgo.page.link/jjpTn*

SCAN TO PLAY



ACROSS

8 Ilium partly destroyed (4)
9 Paper on which one may jot down ideas got when on the throne? (6,4)
10 Reptile queen, in short, is on American road (6)
11 Adder returned gobbling cooking utensil and endangered animal (3,5)
12 Sight-seers' face protection devices have sex appeal (8)
14 Left monk with small animals (6)
16 Identification papers with the French unemployed (4)
17 Flying Sikh protects a tribe from Meghalaya (5)
18 Unadulterated paste has no energy (4)
19 Rodents, having one form of arthritis, on island (6)
21 Told, "Ran back before traitor edited data initially" (8)
23 Bit a king (English) consumed in the past (8)
26 Vehicle operator died beside stream (6)
27 Roosters walk around old maiden in godowns (10)
28 Famous bishop's dress (4)

DOWN

1 A porridge cooked around one for North American creature (7,3)
2 Indy team moulded an explosive substance (8)
3 Hunk getting perfect score (or half a score?) in artist's workplace (6)
4 Right after food at jetty (4)
5 Wine held wrongly in capital (3,5)
6 Spanish navy member with awfully damaged anchor for starters (6)
7 Good boy is happy (4)
13 Bath popular in country (5)
15 Deals with violent sergeant protecting setter (10)
17 Perhaps, footballers have new shorts (8)
18 Musicians and religious saints possess a nickel symbol (8)
20 Says, "Total before commencement of school" (6)
22 Vegetable used in Andhra dishes (6)
24 Cast away deeds (4)
25 It's 12 anyway (4)

SUDOKU

	2	6	1					
7					3			
	5			2	9		6	8
1				3		9		
		5				2		
		9		8				6
6	9		5	4			7	
			3					5
					2	6	4	

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★

Solution to puzzle 13557

Solution to yesterday's Sudoku

6	8	1	3	5	4	9	2	7
5	9	7	2	8	1	4	6	3
2	4	3	6	9	7	5	1	8
1	6	4	8	2	5	3	7	9
8	7	2	9	1	3	6	5	4
9	3	5	7	4	6	2	8	1
7	2	6	4	3	8	1	9	5
3	5	8	1	6	9	7	4	2
4	1	9	5	7	2	8	3	6

FAITH

Dhanvantari avatara

Dhanvantari is an avatara of Lord Vishnu. His name indicates what He does. Dhanu indicates the use of weapons. A knife, arrows etc are all weapons used in warfare. But they can serve other purposes too. A knife can be used to perform surgery. Dhanvantari is skilled in the art of surgery. Dhanvantari avatara is mentioned in the Bhagavata Purana, Skanda 3, Chapter 2, Sloka 21, said Velukkudi Krishnan in a discourse. Lord Narayana appeared as Dhanvantari when the milky ocean was churned. His name was Keerthi. Whoever is ill is cured by Dhanvantari. When a yaga is performed, Dhanvantari gets a portion of the havis. Ayurveda has two divisions. One is diagnosing a disease and prescribing medicines for it. This is what a modern day physician does. Surgery is other division of Ayurveda. The first division is an Upanga of the Rg Veda, and surgery is an Upanga of Atharva Veda. Thus, Ayurveda is one of the Upangas of the Vedas.

The aim of Ayurveda is to enable people live long and live a healthy life. Dhanvantari emerged from the milky ocean holding in His hands the pot of nectar. The Bhagavata Purana describes Dhanvantari's appearance. It says He had a broad chest, long neck and large eyes. He was young, dark, and wore a yellow garment, and wore kundalas in His ears. He had long, dark, curly hair. He walked majestically like a lion. Bracelets adorned His wrists. Many more Puranas talk about Dhanvantari. Dhanvantari is described as One who is well versed in all the Vedas, Vedangas, mantras and tantras. It was predicted that 16 persons like Him would be born to spread Ayurveda. They would author 16 works, and impart to the world knowledge of all herbs and their uses. The Bhagavata purana sloka ends with a salutation to Dhanvantari.

Sri Lanka PM warns of dire days ahead

Cautioning citizens of 'most difficult' next couple of months, Ranil puts forth measures to ease crisis

MEERA SRINIVASAN
COLOMBO

Sri Lankan Prime Minister Ranil Wickremesinghe on Monday warned citizens that the coming months would be the "most difficult ones" of their lives, with likely 15-hour power cuts, and a further price increase in fuel and gas, just as he outlined plans to arrest the island's rapid economic decline.

"To ease the queues, we must obtain approximately $75 million within the next couple of days. At the moment, we only have petrol stocks for a single day," he said in a televised address, his first after assuming charge as Prime Minister on May 12.

President Gotabaya appointed Mr. Wickremesinghe as Premier days after Mahinda Rajapaksa resigned, amid citizens' protests demanding the Rajapaksa clan's resignation over the country's dire economic crisis.

Unrelenting protests: People holding a demonstration, seeking the resignation of President Gotabaya Rajapaksa, outside the Sri Lanka police headquarters in Colombo on Monday. • AFP

New Budget

Mr. Wickremesinghe made a host of proposals, including a "new alternative Budget", privatisation of the country's loss-making national carrier Sri Lankan Airlines, and printing more money to pay state sector employees, and asked people to "prepare to make some sacrifices."

A realistic projection of the country's revenue for the year stood at LKR 1.6 trillion, he said, while the total government expenditure is an estimated LKR 4 trillion. The budget deficit for the year is SLR 2.4 trillion, or 13% of the GDP.

"In November 2019, our foreign exchange reserves were at $7.5 billion. However, today, it is a challenge for the treasury to find $1 million. The Ministry of Finance is finding it difficult to raise $5 million required to import gas," he said, pointing to Sri Lanka's depleting foreign reserves. While Mr. Wickremesinghe's address included possible help from "foreign allies", it was silent on the government's plans to boost domestic production, especially amid a drastic drop in annual harvest, following an abrupt switch to organic farming.

Speaking on the unavailability of dollars to import fuel, Mr. Wickremesinghe said under the Indian credit line, two more diesel shipments are due to arrive on May 18 and June 1, apart from the two petrol shipments expected on May 18 and 29. India has so far sent 12 shipments and over 4,00,000 MT of fuel under the Line of Credit.

For several weeks, Sri Lankans have been spending hours together in long queues outside fuel stations, where petrol and diesel are rationed to cope with the shortages. Residents across several localities on the island have been protesting incessantly, demanding LPG cylinders and kerosene. Meanwhile, citizens continue to agitate near Colombo's seafront, and other locations, asking President Gotabaya to resign.

Ongoing protests

In a message to Mr. Wickremesinghe, demonstrators are camping opposite his official Colombo residence, in a 'No deal gama [village]' set up as anti-government resistance continues, including against the new Prime Minister accused by critics of "entering a deal" with the Rajapaksas. The Federation of University Teachers' Association, a trade union of Sri Lanka's university academics, "strongly condemned" the "non-consultative and self-serving" appointment of Mr. Wickremesinghe.

Apparently responding to the criticism, Mr. Wickremesinghe said in his speech: "My goal and dedication is not to save an individual, a family, or a party. My objective is to save all the people of this country and the future of our younger generation."

Mr. Wickremesinghe has reached out to all political parties. "We must immediately establish a national assembly or political body with the participation of all political parties to find solutions for the present crisis," even as Opposition parties promised conditional support, refusing to be part of a unity government.

Mr. Wickremesinghe invoked German playwright Bertolt Brecht's 'Caucasian Chalk Circle' to highlight the challenging task ahead of him. He likened his situation to that of the character Grusha, crossing a broken rope bridge while carrying a child that was not her own. "This is an even more difficult undertaking. The precipice is deep and its bottom cannot be seen. The bridge is made of thin glass and there is no handrail. I am wearing shoes with sharp nails that cannot be removed. My task is to safely take the child to the other side. I am accepting this challenge for our nation," he said.

In call with Sharif, China PM says Pakistan ties 'a priority'

Li Keqiang takes up issues of terror and economic corridor

ANANTH KRISHNAN
HONG KONG

China's Premier Li Keqiang on Monday said ties with Pakistan were "a priority" in China's diplomacy, during a phone call with his Pakistani counterpart Shahbaz Sharif.

Mr. Li also raised last month's suicide attack in Karachi in which three Chinese teachers and a Pakistani national were killed, near a Confucius Institute. Pakistani media reports said all the Chinese teachers at the institute had this weekend returned to China in the wake of the attack.

Li Keqiang expressed security concerns over projects in Pakistan under the CPEC.

'Shocked and outraged'

Mr. Li said "the Chinese side is shocked and outraged by the recent attack on Chinese nationals in Karachi, and strongly condemns this terrorist attack," the official *Xinhua* news agency quoted him as saying.

It also added that the Chinese Premier "hoped that Pakistan will bring the perpetrators to justice as soon as possible, make every effort to handle follow-up matters, comfort the bereaved families and the injured, and comprehensively strengthen security measures for Chinese institutions and citizens in Pakistan to ensure that similar tragedies will not happen again."

His comments underlined China's security concerns over its projects in Pakistan under the China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC).

The suicide attack last month was carried out by a Baloch group, while the biggest attack so far on Chinese nationals, which claimed the lives of nine Chinese citizens last year who were working on the Dasu hydropower project, was reportedly carried out by the Pakistani Taliban.

Promote cooperation

Mr. Li said China "stands ready to work with Pakistan to strengthen strategic communication" as well as "promote cooperation on such major projects as the CPEC".

The official *Associated Press of Pakistan* said both leaders "agreed that Pakistan and China would not allow anyone to harm the time-tested all-weather strategic cooperative partnership between the two countries."

Mr. Sharif also "affirmed his government's firm resolve to fast-track both the ongoing as well as the new projects" under CPEC.

Works to continue

Also on Monday, Pakistan's Federal Minister for Planning, Development and Special Initiatives Ahsan Iqbal told a Chinese media outlet that work on CPEC would continue regardless of the attack in Karachi.

He said both sides "must be mindful that there are some forces which are enemy of CPEC, which do not want CPEC to move forward," adding that the Pakistani government "devised a strategy for greater coordination amongst all security agencies and organisations to ensure foolproof security to the Chinese working on CPEC projects."

"The best way to defeat such forces," Mr. Iqbal added, "is not to let such incidents impact the speed of CPEC."

Dozens killed in Burkina Faso attacks

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
OUAGADOUGOU

Around 40 people, many of them civilian volunteers with the army, have been killed in suspected jihadist attacks in Burkina Faso, local sources and security officials said on Monday.

In the northern region of Sahel, around 25 people were killed in two assaults on Saturday, including 13 members of the Volunteers for the Defence of the Fatherland (VDP), a leader of the force said.

In Kompienga, near Burkina Faso's southeastern border with Togo and Benin, about 15 civilians were killed in Namouyouri on Saturday when their convoy was attacked while under VDP escort, a security source in the region said.

In another raid overnight on Saturday, assailants carried out a coordinated attack on police and gendarmes' posts in Faramana, near the frontier with Mali, causing two wounded, a security source said.

'Awaiting U.S.'s response to nuclear talks solutions'

Iran holds discussions with EU officials

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
TEHRAN

Iran said on Monday it awaited the U.S. response to "solutions" discussed with the EU envoy for breaking a stalemate in talks aimed at restoring the 2015 nuclear deal.

The European Union's coordinator for nuclear talks with Iran, Enrique Mora, held two days of discussions with the Islamic republic's chief negotiator Ali Bagheri in Tehran last week, leading the EU to say talks had been unblocked.

The negotiations, aimed at bringing the U.S. back into the deal and Iran to full compliance with it, had stalled for about two months.

"Serious and result-oriented negotiations with special initiatives from Iran were held," Iranian Foreign Ministry spokesman Saeed Khatibzadeh told reporters.

"If the U.S. gives its response to some of the solutions that were proposed, we can be in the position that all sides return to Vienna," where the talks are held, he added during his weekly press conference.

"If the U.S. announces its political decision today, which we have not yet received, we can say that an important step has been taken in the progress of the negotiations," Mr. Khatibzadeh noted.

Among the sticking points is Tehran's demand to remove the Revolutionary Guards, the ideological arm of Iran's military, from a U.S. terrorism list.

Washington has adopted a less optimistic tone about the developments. State Department spokesman Ned Price said on Friday that "at this point, a deal remains far from certain."

U.S. in mourning, outrage after 'racist' mass shooting

People organise multiple vigils after white gunman kills 10

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
BUFFALO

Grieving Buffalo residents held vigils on Sunday after a white gunman who officials have branded "pure evil" shot dead 10 persons at a grocery store in a "racist" rampage.

The police commissioner for the U.S. city in western New York, Joseph Gramaglia, told reporters the 18-year-old suspect did "reconnaissance" on the predominantly Black area surrounding Tops Friendly Market and drove there from his hometown of Conklin, more than 322 kilometers away.

"The evidence that we have uncovered so far makes no mistake that this is an absolute racist hate crime," Mr. Gramaglia said on Sunday, adding Gendron had a rifle and shotgun in his car.

Mr. Gramaglia said the gunman had last year made "generalised threats" at his high school, after which state police referred him to a hospital for a mental health evaluation that lasted approximately one day and a half. He was then released.

Collecting clues: A FBI official looking at bullet holes at the site of the shooting in Buffalo, New York, on Monday. • REUTERS

Earlier on Sunday, residents held a vigil outside the store as New York Governor Kathy Hochul and state Attorney General Letitia James addressed a church service.

California shooting

In angry and mournful tones, speakers decried easy access to powerful guns and the latest eruption of racist violence, in what has become tragically routine brutality in the United States.

Just hours later, in California, a shooting at a church southeast of Los Angeles left one person dead and four others "critically wounded," according to the Orange County Sheriff's Department.

United Nations chief Antonio Guterres was "appalled" by the "vile act of racist violent extremism," his spokesman said on Sunday night.

'Will not back Finland and Sweden's NATO bid'

Erdogan makes Turkey's stand clear

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
ISTANBUL

President Recep Tayyip Erdogan on Monday confirmed Turkey's opposition to NATO membership for Finland and Sweden, again accusing them of failing to take a clear stance against terrorism.

"We will not say 'yes' to those (countries) who apply sanctions to Turkey to join security organisation NATO," Mr. Erdogan said.

Sweden has suspended any arms sales to Turkey since 2019 over Ankara's military operation in neighbouring Syria.

Referring to the Swedish and Finnish delegations' intentions to meet with Turkish officials, Mr. Erdogan said: "They say they will come to Turkey on Monday. Will they come to persuade us? Excuse us, but they shouldn't bother."

But Turkey has threatened to block the alliance's expansion, accusing them of harbouring terror groups including outlawed Kurdish militants, blacklisted by Ankara, the EU and the United States. Any membership bid must be unanimously approved by NATO's 30 members.

Position on terror

"Neither of the countries have a clear stance against terror organisations," Mr. Erdogan said.

Sweden and Finland have failed to respond positively to Turkey's 33 extradition requests over the past five years, Justice Ministry sources told the official *Anadolu* news agency on Monday.

Turkey has rebuked Stockholm especially for showing what it describes as leniency towards the Kurdistan Workers' Party (PKK), which has waged a bloody insurgency against the Turkish state since 1984.

U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken voiced confidence on Sunday that Sweden and Finland would join NATO despite Turkey's voiced concerns.

Israeli police's conduct at scribe's funeral slammed

Catholic leader decries use of force

ASSOCIATED PRESS
JERUSALEM

The top Catholic clergyman in the Holy Land on Monday condemned the police beating of mourners carrying the casket of *Al Jazeera* journalist Shireen Abu Akleh, accusing the authorities of violating human rights and disrespecting the Catholic Church.

Pierbattista Pizzaballa

Latin Patriarch Pierbattista Pizzaballa told reporters at St. Joseph Hospital in Jerusalem that Friday's incident, broadcast around the world, was a "disproportionate use of force" to the Palestinian flag-waving crowd of thousands proceeding from the hospital to a nearby Catholic church in Jerusalem's Old City. The attack drew worldwide condemnation and added to the shock and outrage of Abu Akleh's killing as she covered a shootout in the occupied West Bank.

The police attack, Mr. Pizzaballa told reporters, "is a severe violation of international norms and regulations, including the fundamental human right of freedom of religion, which must be observed also in a public space." He spoke as the leaders and clergy of other Christian churches sat nearby.

There was no immediate Israeli response.

Israel and the Palestinians are locked in a war of narratives over Abu Akleh's killing. The reporter, a Palestinian-American, a Catholic and a 25-year veteran of the satellite channel, was shot on Wednesday while covering an Israeli military raid in the Jenin refugee camp. She was wearing a blue vest marked "Press."

Kim blasts pandemic response

North Korean leader mobilises military to tackle the surge in COVID-19 infections

ASSOCIATED PRESS
SEOUL

North Korean leader Kim Jong-Un criticised officials over slow medicine deliveries and mobilised the military to respond to a surge in suspected COVID-19 infections, as his nation struggled to contain a fever that has reportedly killed dozens and sickened nearly a million others in a span of three days.

North Korean health authorities said on Monday that eight more persons died and an additional 3,92,920 were newly found to have feverish symptoms. That brings the death toll to 50 and illnesses to more than 1.2 million, respectively. It's a sharp jump from six dead and 3,50,000 sick reported last Friday, a day after the North said that it found that an unspecified number of people in capital Pyongyang tested positive for the Omicron variant.

Mr. Kim has acknowledged that the fast-spreading fever, highly likely driven by COVID-19, is causing "great upheaval" in the country, and outside experts say the true scale of the outbreak is likely much bigger than what's described in the state-controlled media.

Personal checks: North Korean leader Kim Jong-Un inspecting a pharmacy in country's capital Pyongyang on Sunday. • AFP

Some suspect that North Korea has understated its fatalities or illnesses to shield Mr. Kim's leadership from criticism. The North likely lacks test kits and other tools to detect virus carriers with no or mild symptoms, which means that several million might already have been infected.

"When people die, North Korean authorities will say they've died of overwork or from natural deaths, not because of COVID-19," said Nam Sung-wook, a professor at Korea University in South Korea. Mr. Nam said the North is likely understating the death toll to protect "the dignity of its supreme leader."

Outside help

While neighboring South Korea and China have offered to send medical supplies and other help, experts say it's too late to inoculate the North's 26 million people, and that the only realistic outside help would be offering limited supplies of vaccines to reduce deaths among high-risk groups, including the elderly and people with preexisting conditions.

It's also unclear whether and how soon Mr. Kim would accept outside offers of aid because he has previously rallied for unity at home to guard against the pandemic without resorting to foreign help.

State media didn't specify how many of the fever cases were confirmed as COVID-19. Among the 50 fatalities, North Korea officially identified only one as a COVID-19 case so far.

North Korea is believed to be mostly relying on isolating people with symptoms at shelters. Analyst Cheong Seong-Chang at South Korea's Sejong Institute said the North's limited number of test kits are likely mainly reserved for the ruling elite.

Failing to slow the virus could have dire consequences for North Korea, considering its broken health care system and that its people are believed to be unvaccinated. There's also malnourishment and chronic poverty.

France set to get its first woman PM in 3 decades

Borne was serving as Labour Minister

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
PARIS

French President Emmanuel Macron on Monday named Labour Minister Elisabeth Borne as Prime Minister to lead his ambitious reform plans, the first woman to head the French government in over 30 years.

Outgoing French Prime Minister Jean Castex earlier handed his resignation to the President, part of a widely expected reshuffle to make way for a new government in the wake of Mr. Macron's re-election in April.

The last woman premier, Edith Cresson, briefly headed the Cabinet from May 1991 to April 1992 under president Francois Mitterrand.

Ending weeks of speculation, the Elysee confirmed Ms. Borne's nomination in a statement and she then headed to the Matignon residence of the premier in Paris for the handover with Castex.

The departure of Mr. Castex enables Mr. Macron to reshape the Cabinet ahead of the country's crucial parliamentary polls in June.

Elisabeth Borne

The new government under Ms. Borne is expected to be announced in the next days.

Speculation has been rife in recent weeks about Mr. Castex's replacement, with Mr. Macron indicating he wanted a woman with left-wing and environmental credentials.

Ms. Borne, 61, is seen as an able technocrat who can negotiate prudently with unions, as the President embarks on a new package of social reforms that notably include a rise in the retirement age which risks sparking protests.

MARKET WATCH

	16-05-2022	% CHANGE
Sensex	52,974	0.34
Gold	49,754	-0.74
Brent oil	112.21	–

NIFTY 50

	PRICE	CHANGE
Adani Ports	712.50	6.60
Apollo Hosp	3686.75	138.95
Asian Paints	2999.90	-64.10
Axis Bank	638.95	3.00
Bajaj Auto	3715.85	73.75
Bajaj Finserv	12655.25	46.95
Bajaj Finance	5645.40	129.65
Bharti Airtel	693.20	3.30
BPCL	336.10	-0.85
Britannia Ind	3284.90	6.40
Cipla	933.40	-1.20
Coal India	171.70	3.00
Divis Lab	4218.10	-63.00
Dr Reddys Lab	3888.40	-35.90
Eicher Motors	2617.95	185.30
Grasim Ind	1452.25	-22.85
HCL Tech	1044.55	-7.60
HDFC	2172.10	39.15
HDFC Bank	1305.10	13.75
HDFC Life	549.70	-1.05
Hero MotoCorp	2495.90	46.75
Hindalco	390.95	2.95
Hind Unilever	2217.25	23.15
ICICI Bank	683.00	5.65
Indusind Bank	885.90	13.55
Infosys	1489.10	-15.30
ITC	254.10	-4.50
JSW Steel	602.30	1.85
Kotak Bank	1812.85	31.30
L&T	1542.90	8.40
M&M	903.35	13.85
Maruti Suzuki	7247.60	145.65
Nestle India Ltd.	16218.85	-184.10
NTPC	148.25	4.10
ONGC	153.50	-0.05
PowerGrid Corp	235.20	-1.10
Reliance Ind	2427.20	0.60
SBI Life	1044.65	-0.30
State Bank	455.00	10.35
Shree Cement	21980.85	-584.50
Sun Pharma	885.60	3.10
Tata Consumer Products Ltd.	735.50	-2.10
Tata Motors	405.35	1.05
Tata Steel	1103.50	6.50
TCS	3376.80	-38.10
Tech Mahindra	1189.05	-13.80
Titan	2109.60	17.90
UltraTech Cement	6012.80	-183.75
UPL	802.25	20.70
Wipro	468.00	-0.65

‘Rate increases may not cool price gains driven by war’

SBI economists say 59% of recent inflation spike driven by Russia-Ukraine conflict

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

The Reserve Bank of India’s interest rate increases may not be able to ‘meaningfully’ cool prices while sacrificing growth, as almost three-fifths of the spike in India’s retail inflation since February can be linked to the Ukraine-Russia conflict, SBI’s economic researchers wrote in a report on Monday.

Feeding through: ‘Almost three-fifths of the spike since February are linked to the war’s impact on prices’. • V.V. KRISHNAN

“In a situation of incipient demand recovery post COVID, the question will be whether growth could be a large casualty in case of large and persistent rate increases, even as inflation prints will continue to be of serious concern,” the SBI economists led by group chief economic adviser Soumya Kanti Ghosh wrote.

Inflation measured by the Consumer Price Index (CPI) hit a near eight-year high of 7.8% in April, with rural inflation quickening to the highest level in 96 months at 8.4%. The RBI, in an off-cycle meeting this month, raised benchmark interest rates by 40 basis points.

“Against the continued increase in inflation, it is now almost certain that RBI will raise rates in forthcoming June and August policy and will take it to pre-pandemic level of 5.15% by August,” Mr. Ghosh noted.

“However, the important challenge facing the central bank remains whether inflation will tread down meaningfully because of such rate hikes if war related disruptions do not subside quickly,” he added.

The State Bank of India economists also cautioned that wage growth, which had remained soft so far, could still feed into inflation which could then take time to moderate despite rate increases.

Petrol, diesel sales sprang back in first half of May

Pickup in activity, harvest lift demand

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI

Use of petrol and diesel jumped in May as a pickup in economic activity as well as the start of the harvesting season aided the return of demand, preliminary industry data showed on Monday.

Petrol sales grew 14% in the first half of May compared with a month earlier, while diesel demand rose 1.8%. Cooking gas LPG, which last month saw consumption declining because of high prices, posted a 2.8% rise in sales.

Petrol sales by state-owned fuel retailers at 1.28 million tonnes during May 1-15 were 59.7% higher than a year earlier and 16.3% higher than in the same period in 2019, data showed. The consumption was 13.9% more than the 1.12 million tonnes seen a month earlier.

Diesel saw sales jumping 37.8% year-on-year to 3.05 million tonnes in the first half of May. This was, however, 1.5% lower than in the same period in 2019.

It was still 1.8% higher than the 2.99 million tonnes of consumption seen in April 1-15 this year.

‘Entry-level car buyers putting off purchases’

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
MUMBAI

Customers aspiring to buy entry-level cars or those looking for an upgrade to such models are postponing decisions as the COVID-19 pandemic had hit their income sentiment significantly, rating agency Crisil said in a report on Monday.

At the same time, sales of premium segment cars were expected to rise on account of resilient incomes of affluent buyers, it added. Last fiscal, premium segment cars sold five times faster than those with lower sticker prices, and notched up about 38% year-on-year growth compared with about 7% growth for the latter, the agency said.

We are in an era of higher interest rates: Sanjiv Bajaj

GDP to rise 7.4-8.2%, says CII president

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

Newly-appointed president of the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) Sanjiv Bajaj on Monday said interest rates would likely continue to move up, which would, to some extent, help bring down inflation.

Sanjiv Bajaj

Mr. Bajaj, also CMD of Bajaj Finserv Ltd., added that the confederation expected FY23 GDP to grow 7.4-8.2%, with the outlook “critically hinging” on the trajectory of global crude oil prices.

He said global headwinds and inflation would have to be countered with robust policy reforms to unlock growth potential in the economy. “Tailwinds that are supportive of growth in the short term include government capex, private sector investment that is showing an uptick, aided by strong demand in some sectors and the PLI push in others, good agriculture season on the back of good monsoon [forecast] and positive export momentum,” he said at his first media interaction after taking the helm at CII.

‘Adani’s cement foray likely to intensify competition’

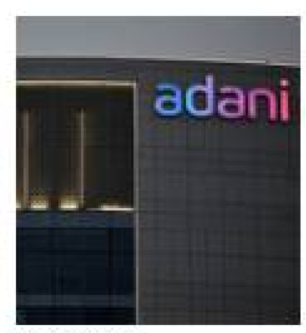
Acquirer may focus on generating better returns: analysts

LALATENDU MISHRA
MUMBAI

The Adani Group’s proposed acquisition of Ambuja Cement Ltd. and ACC Ltd. from Holcim Ltd. will likely spur consolidation in the sector as the group is known for aiming to assume market leadership in any segment it operates in, said analysts.

Industry insiders, however, preferred to wait and watch before commenting.

“Over the longer term, we expect it [the $10.5 billion acquisition] to positively impact the cement sector with expectations of industry consolidation along with better pricing discipline,” Ronald Siyoni, AVP – research, Sharekhan by BNP Paribas said.



“The acquisition would place Adani Group at number two position in India’s cement sector,” he said. “The high valuation ascribed to Holcim’s assets may lead to the acquirer opting for generating better returns… [via] aggressive competitive behaviour.”

According to Kamlesh Bagmar, Deputy Head of Research, Prabhudas Lilladher, Ambuja and ACC would become very aggressive on cost competitiveness and capacity expansion which had been missing over the years.

Industry insiders, though, preferred not to comment.

UltraTech Cement and JSW Cement declined comment, and a call made to India Cements vice-chairman and MD, N. Srinivasan remained unanswered.

However, Shree Cement Ltd. chairman B.G. Bangur said, “We have to see their [Adani group’s] style of functioning for six months before commenting; they are new to the sector”.

China’s economy cools sharply on lockdowns

April retail sales slide 11% year-on-year

REUTERS
BEIJING

China’s economic activity cooled sharply in April as widening COVID-19 lockdowns took a heavy toll on consumption, industrial production and employment, adding to fears the economy could shrink in the second quarter.

Full or partial lockdowns were imposed in dozens of cities in March and April, including a protracted shutdown in commercial centre Shanghai, keeping workers and shoppers confined to their homes and severely disrupting supply chains. Retail sales in April shrank 11.1% from a year earlier, the biggest contraction since March 2020, official data showed on Monday.

China’s auto sales plunged 47.6% from a year earlier as carmakers slashed production amid empty showrooms and parts shortages.

As the anti-virus measures snarled supply chains and paralysed distribution, industrial production fell 2.9% from a year earlier, the largest decline since February 2020.

IN BRIEF

Government puts sale of Pawan Hans on hold

NEW DELHI

The government has put on hold the sale of Pawan Hans as it is examining an NCLT order against Almas Global, the biggest shareholder in the winning consortium, an official said. Last month, the government selected Star9 Mobility, a consortium of Big Charter Pvt. Ltd., Maharaja Aviation Pvt. Ltd. and Almas Global Opportunity Fund SPC, as the winning bidder for Pawan Hans. Earlier, the sale of Central Electronics too was stalled on account of certain allegations against the winning bidder. PTI

KARNATAKA STATE WAREHOUSING CORPORATION
"Ugrana Bhavan", No 43, Primrose Road, Bengaluru-560025.
Tel: 080-23415649, Fax:080-23415672
E-mail : mdkswc2018@gmail.com Website: www.kswc.in

No.:KSWC/COM-4/Mob-Twr/490/2022-23 Date: 13.05.2022

TENDER NOTIFICATION

The Corporation has invited tender for installation of Mobile / Telecom Tower at Warehouse Centres by availing KSWC ground space in the respective warehouse premises on 16.05.2022. The last date for submission of tender through online will be **15.06.2022 up to 5.00 P.M.** The Pre-bid meeting will be on **30.05.2022 at 12.00 PM.** Opening of Technical bid is on **18.06.2022 at 11.30 A.M.** Opening of Financial bid will be intimated to the qualified bidders. For tender documents and more details Please visit **www.eproc.karnartaka.gov.in** from **16.05.2022** or call helpline No. 080-46010000/080-22631200 and Deputy General Manager - 8277070838.

Sd/-
Managing Director, KSWC.

DIPR/CP/Jagadale Advertising/516/ 2022-23

STAY PROTECTED FROM COVID-19, NO CARELESSNESS UNTIL THERE IS A CURE.
Wear Mask | 6 Feet Follow Physical Distancing | Maintain Hand Hygiene

KARNATAKA ELECTRICITY REGULATORY COMMISSION
No.16 C-1, Miller Tank Bed Area, Vasanthanagara, Bengaluru-560 052
Ph.: 080-22268677 / 78 / 79, Fax: 080-22370214
E-mail: kerc-ka@nic.in Website : www.karunadu.karnataka.gov.in/kerc

No.: KERC/01/DDD/22-23/180, Bengaluru Date: 16.05.2022

NOTICE

Sub: Draft Conditions of Supply of Electricity of Distribution Licensees in the State of Karnataka (CoS) (Tenth Amendment), 2022.

The draft amendments to the various clauses on the above subject was published in the Official Gazette of Karnataka on 13.05.2022 and the same is also made available on the KERC's website **www.karunadu.karnataka.gov.in/kerc.**

The interested persons may file their comments/views/ suggestions/objections if any, on the above draft CoS to the Secretary, KERC, **on or before 30.05.2022.**

Sd/- Secretary, KERC, Bengaluru

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರ
ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಾಹಕ ಅಭಿಯಂತರರ ಕಛೇರಿ
ಗ್ರಾಮೀಣ ಕುಡಿಯುವ ನೀರು ಮತ್ತು ನೈರ್ಮಲ್ಯ ವಿಭಾಗ, ಬಾಗಲಕೋಟ

ಸಂಗ್ರಾಕುನೀಮತ್ತುನೈವಿ/ಬಾಗಲಕೋಟ/ಏಪಿ-ಟೆಂಡರ್/2022-23/229 ದಿನಾಂಕ :13-05-2022

ಅಲ್ಪಾವಧಿ ಇ-ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರಮೆಂಟ್-ಟೆಂಡರ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಮಾನ್ಯ ರಾಜ್ಯಪಾಲರ ಪರವಾಗಿ ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಾಹಕ ಇಂಜನೀಯರರು, ಗ್ರಾಮೀಣ ಕುಡಿಯುವ ನೀರು ಮತ್ತು ನೈರ್ಮಲ್ಯ ವಿಭಾಗ, ಬಾಗಲಕೋಟ ರವರಿಂದ ಕುಡಿಯುವ ನೀರು ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಅರ್ಹ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರಿಂದ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದ್ದು, ವಿವರ ಈ ಕೆಳಗಿನಂತಿದೆ.

1)ಹುನಗುಂದ ತಾಲ್ಲೂಕಿನಕಾಮಗಾರಿಯ ವಿವರ
1)Gopsani (ST) Indent No -40429 APT- 10.75 lakhs
2)Revadihal (GEN) Indent No-40428 APT- 13.41 lakhs
3)Marol Indent No-40427 APT- 70.47 lakhs
4)Pochapur Indent No-40426 APT- 22.76 lakhs
5)Krishnapura Indent No-40425 APT- 66.76 lakhs
6)Hulaginal Indent No-40424 APT- 71.06 lakhs
7)Belagal Indent No-40423 APT- 53.00 lakhs
8)chikkodagali LT2 Indent No-39867 APT- 111.96 lakhs
2) ಲೆಕ್ಕ ಶೀರ್ಷಿಕೆ: JJM-2215
3) ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಅರ್ಜಿ ಬೆಲೆ ಮತ್ತು ಇ.ಎಮ್.ಡಿ ಮೊತ್ತ ಇ-ಪ್ರೋಕ್ಯೂರಮೆಂಟ್ ಪ್ರಕಾರ
4) ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಫಾರಂ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸುವ ಅಂತಿಮ ದಿನಾಂಕ: 30-05-2022 ಸಾಯಂಕಾಲ 5.30 ಗಂಟೆಯ ವರೆಗೆ
5) ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಬಿಡ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ:01-06-2022 ಮಧ್ಯಾಹ್ನ 11.00 ಗಂಟೆಯ ನಂತರ (Two Cover)
6) ಆರ್ಥಿಕ ಬಿಡ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ: 01-06-2022 11.00 ಗಂಟೆಯ ನಂತರ (Two Cover)
7) ಆರ್ಥಿಕ ಬಿಡ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ: 03-06-2022 11.00 ಗಂಟೆಯ ನಂತರ (Single Cover)
8) ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ವಿವರಗಳಿಗೆ ಸಂಪರ್ಕಿಸಬೇಕಾದ ವಿಳಾಸ ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಾಹಕ ಇಂಜನೀಯರರು, ಗ್ರಾಮೀಣ ಕುಡಿಯುವ ನೀರು ಮತ್ತು ನೈರ್ಮಲ್ಯ ವಿಭಾಗ, ಬಾಗಲಕೋಟ

ಟಿಪ್ಪಣಿ:- 1) ಟೆಂಡರ ಮೊತ್ತಕ್ಕಿಂತ ಕಡಿಮೆ ದರವನ್ನು ನಮೂದಿಸಿದಲ್ಲಿ ಒಟ್ಟು ವ್ಯತ್ಯಾಸ ಮೊತ್ತದ DD/FDRನ್ನು ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಾಹಕ ಇಂಜನೀಯರರು, ಗ್ರಾಮೀಣ ಕುಡಿಯುವ ನೀರು ಮತ್ತು ನೈರ್ಮಲ್ಯ ವಿಭಾಗ, ಬಾಗಲಕೋಟ ಇವರ ಹೆಸರಿನಲ್ಲಿ ಪಡೆದು ಸ್ಕ್ಯಾನ್ ಮಾಡಿ ಆನ್‌ಲೈನ್ ಮುಖಾಂತರ ಟೆಂಡರ ಜೊತೆಗೆ ಅಪ್‌ಲೋಡ್ ಮಾಡಬೇಕು. ಟೆಂಡರ ಅನುಮೋದನೆಗಿಂತ ಮುಂಚಿತವಾಗಿ ಈ ಕಛೇರಿಗೆ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸತಕ್ಕದ್ದು, ತಪ್ಪಿದಲ್ಲಿ ಅಂತಹ ಟೆಂಡರನ್ನು ಪರಿಗಣಿಸಲಾಗುವುದಿಲ್ಲ.
2) ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆ ಮೊತ್ತಕ್ಕೆ 12% GST ಯನ್ನು ಸೇರಿಸಿ ಕೆಲಸದ ಆದೇಶ ನೀಡಲಾಗುವುದು.

ಸಹಿ/- ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಾಹಕ ಇಂಜನೀಯರರು,
ಗ್ರಾಕುನೀಮತ್ತುನೈ ವಿಭಾಗ, ಬಾಗಲಕೋಟ

BEFORE THE NATIONAL COMPANY LAW TRIBUNAL
BANGALORE BENCH AT BANGALORE
CP (CAA) No. 09/BB/2022 of 2022
IN
CA (CAA) No. 42/BB/2020
In the matter of Companies Act, 2013
And
In the matter of Section 230 to 232 of The Companies Act, 2013 read with Companies (Compromises, Arrangements and Amalgamations) Rules, 2016
And
In the matter of Scheme of Amalgamation
of
PERFECTO TAPES LIMITED, The Transferee Company
with
RAKHECHA COMMODITIES PRIVATE LIMITED, The Transferor Company No. 1
And
ARIHANT STOCKS LIMITED, The Transferor Company No. 2
And
THEIR RESPECTIVE SHAREHOLDERS AND CREDITORS
under sections 230 to 232 read with other applicable provisions of The Companies Act, 2013 and the rules framed thereunder.

PERFECTO TAPES LIMITED
CIN: U74120KA1994PLC015873
Registered Office: 8, Prabhat Complex, I Floor, K.G.Road, Bangalore-560009, KA
PAN: AABCM5145Q
......PETITIONER COMPANY NO. 1/ TRANSFEREE COMPANY

RAKHECHA COMMODITIES PRIVATE LIMITED
CIN: U67120KA2004PTC033302
Registered Office: NO.8, IInd Floor, Prabhat Complex, K.G. Road, Bangalore-560009, KA PAN: AACCR7144P
......PETITIONER COMPANY NO. 2/ TRANSFEROR COMPANY 1

ARIHANT STOCKS LIMITED
CIN: U85110KA1996PLC019563
Registered Office: No.8, 2nd Floor, Prabhat complex, K.G. Road, Bangalore-560009, KA
PAN: AABCA7924P
......PETITIONER COMPANY NO. 3/ TRANSFEROR COMPANY 2

NOTICE OF PETITION

A Petition under Section 230 to 232 and other applicable provisions of The Companies Act, 2013 for sanction of the Scheme of Amalgamation between Petitioner Companies was presented by the Petitioner Companies jointly before the Hon'ble National Company Law Tribunal, Bangalore bench. The First Motion Application bearing CA(CAA) NO. 42/BB/2020 seeking dispensation of the Meeting of the Shareholders and Creditors of the Applicant Companies and necessary directions were issued on 27.11.2020. The aforesaid Joint Petition bearing C.P.(CAA)No. 09/BB/2022 is fixed for hearing before the Hon'ble NCLT on July 6, 2022.

If any person concerned is desirous of supporting or opposing the said petition, he/she/it should send to the undersigned Authorized Representatives at their respective addresses mentioned above, notice of his/her/its intention signed by him/her/it or his/her/its advocate not later than Fifteen days before the date fixed for the hearing of the Petition. Where any person concerned seeks to oppose the aforesaid Petition, the grounds of opposition or a copy of Affidavit in that behalf should be furnished with such Notice. A Copy of the Company Scheme Petition along with all the exhibits will be furnished by the Petitioner Companies' authorized representatives to any person requiring the same on payment of the Prescribed Fees for the same.

Dated this Tuesday May 17, 2022

For Perfecto Tapes Limited
Sd/-
Shreyans Rakhecha
Authorized Signatory of Petitioner Company No.1

For Rakhecha Commodities Private Limited
Sd/-
Rajendra Prasad Rakhecha
Authorized Signatory of Petitioner Company No.2

For Arihant Stocks Limited
Sd/-
Shanti Prasad Rakhecha
Authorized Signatory of Petitioner Company No.3

‘Tea plantation activity hit by coal cost spike’

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
KOLKATA

The Tea Association of India (TAI) on Monday flagged the issue of rising coal costs due to acute shortage and said it affected plantation activity as coal was a key input for manufacturing tea in North Bengal.

TAI said since the North Bengal region did not have access to supplies of natural gas, unlike the gardens of Upper Assam, it led the North Bengal gardens to face competitive disadvantages.

On minimum wages in a labour intensive industry like tea, TAI sources said the cost of production on account of wages was always higher here compared with other less labour intensive industries.

‘High inflation may spur gold demand as hedge’

Imports of metal rose 33% to $46 bn

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
MUMBAI

Despite the World Gold Council’s projection of a dip in consumer demand for the precious metal this fiscal on the back of rising prices and record imports last fiscal, a foreign brokerage has suggested in a report that demand may rise more than generally projected as households may snap up the metal as a hedge against spiralling inflation.

Gold imports rose 33.3% to $46.14 billion (837 tonnes) in FY22 and 12% more than the pre-pandemic average of FY16-20, leading to a higher current account deficit that’s seen at 3% of GDP, government data showed last month. Imports were only worth $34.62 billion in the pandemic-hit FY21.

After a record $54 billion worth of imports in FY13, inward gold shipments had been waning over the years, but began to increase again in FY21.

Gold imports are projected to marginally decline to $43 billion in FY23, UBS Securities India said in a report released on Monday.

The surge in FY22 contributed to the widening of the trade deficit to $192.41 billion from FY21’s $102.62 billion. India is the world’s second-biggest gold consumer after China.

“Our regression analysis suggests that a 1 percentage point increase in inflation leads to a 2.6% rise in gold demand,” UBS Securities India said. Higher prices, however, may restrain investment demand, it added.

Compressor firm Elgi’s net rises to ₹178 cr.

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
COIMBATORE

Air compressor manufacturer Elgi Equipments reported a consolidated FY22 net profit of ₹178.4 crore and aid it would take steps to keep costs under control as inflation, war, and political unrest in some geographies threatened to affect demand and margins.

The company had posted a consolidated PAT of ₹102.5 crore in FY21. Consolidated sales stood at ₹2,525 crore, as against ₹1,924 crore in the previous year. Standalone PAT was ₹189.4 crore (₹105.1 crore in the year earlier).

MD Jairam Varadaraj said topline growth of FY22 was unlikely to be sustainable in the current year as big countries had stopped stimulus spending.

McDonald’s exits from Russia after 30 years

Can’t ignore crisis in Ukraine, says CEO

REUTERS

McDonald’s Corp. on Monday became one of the biggest global names to exit Russia following its invasion of Ukraine, laying out plans to sell all its restaurants after operating for more than 30 years in the country.

The world’s largest burger chain, which owns about 84% of its almost 850 restaurants in Russia, will take a related non-cash charge of up to $1.4 billion.

McDonald’s had in March decided to close its restaurants in the country, including the iconic Pushkin Square location in central Moscow - a symbol of flourishing American capitalism in the dying embers of the Soviet Union.

In the Russia of the early nineties, the burger chain became a way to sample Western food and spirit for millions of people, even though the cost of one burger was several times bigger than many city dwellers’ daily budgets.

“Some might argue that providing access to food and continuing to employ tens of thousands of ordinary citizens is surely the right thing to do,” Chief Executive Chris Kempczinski said in a letter to employees. “But it is impossible to ignore the humanitarian crisis caused by the war in Ukraine.”

Though a vast majority of the stores in Russia are closed, a few franchised stores have stayed open, cashing in on its skyrocketing popularity. The firm generated about 9%, or $2 billion, of its revenue from Russia and Ukraine last year.

Wheat export ban said to trap 1.8 MT at ports

‘Traders face prospect of heavy losses’

REUTERS
MUMBAI

India’s wheat export ban has trapped some 1.8 million tonnes (MT) of grain at ports, leaving traders facing heavy losses from the prospect of selling onto a weaker domestic market, four dealers told Reuters.

New Delhi banned wheat exports on Saturday, just days after saying it was targeting record shipments of 10 MT this year, as a scorching heat wave curtailed output and domestic prices hit a record high.

Only exports backed by letters of credit (LCs), or payment guarantees, issued before May 13 can proceed before the ban takes effect, India has said.

But of the about 2.2 million tonnes of wheat currently at ports or in transit there, traders have LCs for only 4,00,000 tonnes, a Mumbai-based dealer with a global trading firm said.

“Exporters don’t know what to do with the remaining 1.8 million tonnes. Nobody thought the government will outright ban the exports,” said one dealer, who declined to be named due to company policy. One Mumbai-based trader said the ban could force it to declare force majeure on shipments to overseas customers.

Never seen such camaraderie in any Indian team: Siyadutallah

The coach felt that beating Malaysia in the quarterfinals proved the turning point and revealed that the mood in the camp was upbeat right through

THOMAS CUP

V.V. SUBRAHMANYAM
HYDERABAD

There is no pressure on us. We are the underdogs. Believe in all the training you have undergone. Just give 100 per cent and the results will fall in place. This was the message from men's singles coach Mohd. Siyadutallah as India scripted a historic 3-0 win over Indonesia in the Thomas Cup final in Bangkok on Sunday.

"Beating Malaysia in the quarterfinal was the turning point of the championship. Once we beat them, we had an eye on the championship because it was a very strong team," the 48-year-old coach said.

For close to a decade, he has been the silent No. 2 in the support staff of the Indian badminton teams. On Sunday, as Siyadutallah gave tips to star shuttler K. Srikanth in the third match, it was another reminder of his quiet contribution to the sport.

"From day one, the mood has been upbeat. *Phadeyengey* (will tear apart the opposition). I have never seen such camaraderie before with any Indian team," Siyadutallah told *The Hindu* from Bangkok.

Team spirit

"The players showed great team spirit. And it was possible because of so many things like regular team meetings, dress code, going together for dinner and breakfast.

"Even when there were some negative vibes when we didn't try a particular doubles combination, captain Srikanth suggested that I convene a meeting and ensure that the team spirit remains high and that no one member should be low for want of anything," he said.

"The confidence level was always high. The doubles combination of Satwiksairaj and Chirag Shetty is the strong point now. Their consistency is now giving us the cushion in case of any early upset. Or else, there was always great pressure on the likes of Lakshya Sen, Srikanth and Prannoy," Siyadutallah said.

The delighted coach was not surprised by Prannoy's stunning display because of the way he trained and has been playing in the recent past.

"I must say it is a complete team performance. It is a perfect 10, as they say in gymnastics," he said.

"This is the biggest moment for me personally, for the Indian team and also for badminton itself," added a jubilant Siyadutallah.

Perfect 10: A complete team performance contributed to the historic triumph, says the coach. • BADMINTONPHOTO/COURTESY OF BWF

Srikanth and Satwik's parents lavish praise

V.V. SUBRAHMANYAM
HYDERABAD

"We are all feeling proud. This is a historic moment," was the reaction of champion shuttler K. Srikanth's father, K.V.S. Krishna.

"Honestly, there were zero expectations from our side before the championship. We were just looking at the championship, like the players do, taking one match a day," the elated father told *The Hindu*.

"This victory is all the more sweeter given the fact that Srikanth contributed to the team's victory in style. We all felt bad when the critics had written him off during the lean patch which was a result of poor form and injuries too," he explained. Satwiksairaj's father Viswanadham Rankireddy and mother Rangamani recalled that they were asked by their son to see them off at the airport before he left for Bangkok.

"Satwik was sentimental because when we saw him off for the Commonwealth Games, he came back with a silver medal. So, we came all the way from Amalapuram to Hyderabad and we are glad that he helped India win gold in Thomas Cup," recalled a proud Viswanadham.

Satwiksairaj and Chirag pulled out of the Thailand Open beginning in Bangkok on Tuesday. It is learnt that Chirag suffered a few niggles during the Thomas Cup.

Marsh, Sarfaraz and Shardul deliver for Capitals in crucial game

The Aussie scores his second successive half-century while the opener makes a 16-ball 32; seamer derails Kings' chase

IPL 2022

SHAYAN ACHARYA
NAVI MUMBAI

Mitchell Marsh arrived late, contracted COVID-19 and was forced to miss a few games of the Indian Premier League (IPL) this season.

However, the Australian has started to make up for lost time, becoming Mr. Dependable for Delhi Capitals in the middle-order.

After an impressive show against Rajasthan Royals in the previous outing, Marsh's 63 (48b, 4x4, 3x6) guided Rishabh Pant's men to 159 for seven and eventually paved the way for the team's 17-run win at the D.Y. Patil Stadium on Monday.

The victory also brightened Capitals' playoff chances.

Expectations were high from a star-studded Punjab Kings batting line-up, but the target proved too steep despite a 41-run partnership for the eighth wicket between Jitesh Sharma (44, 34b, 3x4, 2x6) and Rahul Chahar, who remained unbeaten on 25.

With Shardul Thakur claiming four wickets and the Kuldeep Yadav-Axar Patel spin duo two each, the Kings innings collapsed despite openers Jonny Bairstow and Shikhar Dhawan scoring 38 within the first four overs.

After Bairstow fell to Anrich Nortje, Bhanuka Rajapaksa and Dhawan were sent back by Shardul off the fourth and sixth deliveries of the sixth over as Kings slid to 54 for three in the PowerPlay. Axar and Kuldeep tightened the noose, dismissing captain Mayank Agarwal and the big-hitting Liam Livingstone cheaply.

Delhi's dazzlers: Marsh put the Capitals innings back on the rails after Warner's first-ball dismissal while Shardul picked up a four-for. • SPORTZPICS/IPL

Earlier, despite Livingstone picking up three wickets, Marsh's efforts guided Capitals to a competitive total.

Opting to bowl, Kings started the proceedings with Livingstone and the England all-rounder struck off his first delivery, dismissing the in-form David Warner.

Marsh rebuilt Capitals' innings, forging a 51-run stand with Sarfaraz Khan. While the former held fort at one end, the latter went after the Kings bowlers, hitting Harpreet Brar for a six and two fours in the third over. Sarfaraz was gearing up for more before falling to Arshdeep Singh off the penultimate ball of the fifth over.

Off the next delivery – a sharp bouncer – Lalit Yadav was caught by Bairstow in the deep.

However, the Kings players' joy was short-lived as Arshdeep had overstepped. Lalit made the most of the reprieve to score 24 before falling to the same bowler in the 11th over.

Despite the middle-order failing to show intent, Marsh propelled Capitals to 159, a total that proved adequate.

Next assignment

DC: May 21 vs. **MI**
Wankhede, 7.30 p.m.

PBKS: May 22 vs. **SRH**
Wankhede, 7.30 p.m.

SCOREBOARD

DELHI CAPITALS

David Warner c Rahul Chahar b Livingstone 0 *(1b)*, Sarfaraz Khan c Rahul Chahar b Arshdeep 32 *(16b, 5x4, 1x6)*, Mitchell Marsh c Rishi Dhawan b Rabada 63 *(48b, 4x4, 3x6)*, Lalit Yadav c Rajapaksa b Arshdeep 24 *(21b, 1x4, 1x6)*, Rishabh Pant st. Jitesh b Livingstone 7 *(3b, 1x6)*, Rovman Powell c Shikhar Dhawan b Livingstone 2 *(6b)*, Axar Patel (not out) 17 *(20b, 2x4)*, Shardul Thakur c Harpreet b Arshdeep 3 *(4b)*, Kuldeep Yadav (not out) 2 *(2b)*; Extras (lb-6, w-2, nb-1): 9; Total (for seven wkts. in 20 overs): 159.

FALL OF WICKETS

1-0 (Warner, 0.1 ov), 2-51 (Sarfaraz, 4.5), 3-98 (Lalit, 10.6), 4-107 (Pant, 11.6), 5-112 (Powell, 13.3), 6-149 (Marsh, 18.2), 7-154 (Shardul, 19.3).

PUNJAB KINGS BOWLING

Livingstone 4-0-27-3, Rabada 3-0-24-1, Harpreet 3-0-29-0, Rishi Dhawan 2-0-17-0, Arshdeep 4-0-37-3, Rahul Chahar 4-0-19-0.

PUNJAB KINGS

Jonny Bairstow c Axar b Nortje 28 *(15b, 4x4, 1x6)*, Shikhar Dhawan c Pant b Shardul 19 *(16b, 3x4)*, Bhanuka Rajapaksa c Nortje b Shardul 4 *(5b, 1x4)*, Liam Livingstone st. Pant b Kuldeep Yadav 3 *(5b)*, Mayank Agarwal b Axar 0 *(2b)*, Jitesh Sharma c Warner b Shardul 44 *(34b, 3x4, 2x6)*, Harpreet Brar b Kuldeep Yadav 1 *(2b)*, Rishi Dhawan b Axar 4 *(13b)*, Rahul Chahar (not out) 25 *(24b, 2x4, 1x6)*, Kagiso Rabada c Powell b Shardul 6 *(2b, 1x6)*, Arshdeep Singh (not out) 2 *(3b)*; Extras (w-5, nb-1): 6; Total (for nine wkts. in 20 overs): 142.

FALL OF WICKETS

1-38 (Bairstow, 3.5), 2-53 (Rajapaksa, 5.4), 3-54 (Shikhar Dhawan, 5.6), 4-55 (Mayank, 6.3), 5-61 (Livingstone, 7.6), 6-67 (Harpreet, 9.3), 7-82 (Rishi Dhawan, 12.4), 8-123 (Jitesh, 17.4), 9-131 (Rabada, 17.6).

CAPITALS BOWLING

Khaleel 4-0-43-0, Nortje 4-0-29-1, Lalit 1-0-6-0, Shardul 4-0-36-4, Axar 4-0-14-2, Kuldeep Yadav 3-0-14-2.

Toss: Punjab Kings.
DC won by 17 runs.

Innings scan

DC		PBKS
45	Dots	56
12	Fours	13
6	Sixes	5
59/2	PP	54/3
7.95	RR	7.10

POINTS TABLE

Team	M	W	L	PTS	NRR
Gujarat Titans (Q)	13	10	3	20	0.391
Rajasthan Royals	13	8	5	16	0.304
Lucknow Super Giants	13	8	5	16	0.262
Delhi Capitals	13	7	6	14	0.255
Royal Challengers Bangalore	13	7	6	14	-0.323
Kolkata Knight Riders	13	6	7	12	0.160
Punjab Kings	13	6	7	12	-0.043
Sunrisers Hyderabad	12	5	7	10	-0.270
Chennai Super Kings (E)	13	4	9	8	-0.206
Mumbai Indians (E)	12	3	9	6	-0.613

AFTER THE PBKS-DC MATCH ON MAY 16 — *Q: QUALIFIED; E: ELIMINATED*

Sunrisers have an uphill task to qualify

Mumbai will look to play spoilsport

AYAN ACHARYA
MUMBAI

Mumbai Indians has already ended the IPL 2022 playoff hopes of Chennai Super Kings and in its path next, at the Wankhede Stadium on Tuesday, is Sunrisers Hyderabad.

The loss against Kolkata Knight Riders has dented SRH's hopes of reaching the last four. But, it could still sneak through with 14 points. However, its poor NRR of -0.270 makes qualification an uphill task.

Batting woes

As a barometer of the Sunrisers Hyderabad team, Kane Williamson is pretty accurate. His batting woes mirror SRH's.

In IPL-15, SRH has the worst PowerPlay run-rate (6.80). Williamson has scored 208 runs at a strike rate of 92.85 this season but Sunrisers continue to persist with him as opener.

Although SRH has the second-best run rate (8.58) between overs seven and 16, Williamson's PowerPlay strike rate of 76.38 is leaving the middle-order batters with too much work to do. The team could possibly think of asking Rahul Tripathi to open.

TODAY'S MATCH

MUMBAI INDIANS vs. SUNRISERS HYDERABAD

WANKHEDE, 7.30 P.M.

HEAD-TO-HEAD
Played: 18
MI 10 | SRH 8

PREVIOUS MEETING
MI won by 42 runs, 2021

STAR SPORTS 1 (SD & HD)

In the bowling department, the return of T. Natarajan and Washington Sundar is good news although they went for a combined 83 runs in eight overs and took just one wicket against Kolkata Knight Riders.

The Mumbai side, too, has had to contend with top-order issues, but the emergence of Tilak Varma – 368 runs in 12 innings – has been a silver lining. Tilak, along with Hrithik Shokeen, put MI on course for victory against CSK with a mature 48-run stand.

Jasprit Bumrah enjoys bowling at the Wankhede, where he has 37 wickets in 34 IPL matches at an economy rate of 7.72. His battle with the SRH top-order could be decisive.

Remaining league fixtures

May 17 (Tue)	MI vs. SRH	7.30 p.m.	Wankhede
May 18 (Wed)	KKR vs. LSG	7.30 p.m.	DY Patil
May 19 (Thu)	RCB vs. GT	7.30 p.m.	Wankhede
May 20 (Fri)	RR vs. CSK	7.30 p.m.	Brabourne
May 21 (Sat)	MI vs. DC	7.30 p.m.	Wankhede
May 22 (Sun)	SRH vs. PBKS	7.30 p.m.	Wankhede

Local man tried to save Symonds

REUTERS
MELBOURNE

A man tried to revive former Australia cricketer Andrew Symonds after he crashed his car in Queensland over the weekend, Australian media reported on Monday.

The 46-year-old all-rounder and two-time World Cup winner passed away following the single-car accident late on Saturday near the northern city of Townsville in Queensland.

Local resident Waylon Townson told the *Nine Network* that he had heard the crash and was first at the scene.

"He was stuck in there, so I tried to pull him out," he said. "(I) started doing CPR and checked his pulse but didn't get much response from him."

Emergency services also tried to revive Symonds, the sole occupant of the car, but he died of injuries.

Smriti, Harmanpreet, Deepti to lead

Mithali, Jhulan and Shikha the notable absentees

Smriti, Harmanpreet and Deepti will helm Trailblazers, Supernovas and Velocity. • FILE PHOTOS

T20 CHALLENGE

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI

Star Indian players Smriti Mandhana, Harmanpreet Kaur and Deepti Sharma were on Monday named captains of the three teams for the Women's T20 Challenge to be played in Pune from May 23.

Veteran India cricketers Mithali Raj, Jhulan Goswami and Shikha Pandey, who played in the previous edition, are the notable absentees in the squads.

The squads:

Supernovas: Harmanpreet Kaur (Capt.), Taniya Bhatia, Alana King, Ayush Soni, V. Chandu, Deandra Dottin, Harleen Deol, Meghna Singh, Monica Patel, Muskan Malik, Pooja Vastrakar, Priya Punia, Rashi Kanojia, Sophie Ecclestone, Sune Luus and Mansi Joshi.

Trailblazers: Smriti Mandhana (Capt.), Poonam Yadav, Arundhati Reddy, Hayley Matthews, Jemimah Rodrigues, Priyanka Priyadarshini, Rajeshwari Gayakwad, Renuka Singh, Richa Ghosh, S. Meghana, Saiqa Ishaque, Salma Khatun, Sharmin Akter, Sophia Dunkley, Sujata Mallik, S.B. Pokharkar.

Velocity: Deepti Sharma (Capt.), Sneh Rana, Shafali Verma, Ayabonga Khaka, K.P. Navgire, Kathryn Cross, Keerthi James, Laura Wolvaardt, Maya Sonawane, Natthakan Chantham, Radha Yadav, Aarti Kedar, Shivali Shinde, Simran Bahadur, Yastika Bhatia and Pranavi Chandra.

The schedule:

May 23: Trailblazers vs Supernovas, 7.30 p.m.

May 24: Supernovas vs Velocity, 3.30 p.m.

May 26: Velocity vs Trailblazers, 7.30 p.m.

May 28: Final, 7.30 p.m.

Nikhat, Manisha and Parveen assured of podium finish

BOXING WORLDS

SPORTS BUREAU

Nikhat Zareen (52kg), Manisha Moun (57kg) and Parveen (63kg) won their quarterfinal bouts to reach the semifinals and ensure medals for the country in the World women's boxing championships at Istanbul on Monday.

However, Nitu Ghanghas (48kg), Anamika (50kg), Jaismine Lamboria (60kg), Pooja Rani Bohra (81kg) and Nandini (+81kg) lost their last-eight matches.

Nikhat secured India's first medal by beating English boxer Charley Davison 5-0.

Moving in and out, Nikhat blocked the taller southpaw's rights and landed scoring shots using her own right hand.

Manisha pipped Namuun Monkhor 4-1 in a hard-fought battle.

Manisha used her fast hands to deliver a good volume of punches on the aggressive Mongolian and managed to notch up victory despite getting a warning.

Parveen saw off Shoira Zulkaynarova 5-0 in spite of the Tajikistan boxer's rough tactics.

Unperturbed: Parveen did not let Zulkaynarova's rough tactics affect her as she won with ease. • TWITTER/BFI OFFICIAL

Other results (quarterfinals): **48kg:** Nitu Ghanghas lost to Alua Balkibekova (Kaz) 3-2; **50kg:** Anamika lost to Ingrit Valencia (Col) 5-0; **60kg:** Jaismine Lamboria lost to Rashida Ellis (USA) 4-1; **81kg:** Pooja Rani Bohra lost to Jessica Bagley (Aus) 3-2; **+81kg:** Nandini lost to Khaija Mardi (Mar) 5-0.

Mathews falls for 199

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
CHITTAGONG

Angelo Mathews missed out on his second double hundred by one run as Bangladesh bowled out Sri Lanka for 397 runs in the first Test in Chittagong on Monday.

Bangladesh made a solid reply with the bat, reaching 76 for no loss at stumps on the second day.

Off-spinner Nayeem Hasan earlier broke Mathews' heart, forcing him to spoon a catch to Shakib Al Hasan at square leg on 199 as he made a desperate attempt to complete his double hundred.

Nayeem finished with six for 105 while Shakib claimed three for 60.

The scores:

Sri Lanka 397 in 153 overs (Angelo Mathews 199, Dinesh Chandimal 66, Kusal Mendis, 54, Nayeem Hasan 6/105, Shakib-Al-Hasan 3/60) vs Bangladesh 76/0 in 19 overs (Tamim Iqbal 35 batting, Mahmudul Hasan Joy 31 batting).

LIVE TELECAST

NBA: Sports 18, Voot Select, Vh1, MTV & Jio TV, 6 a.m.

Bangladesh vs Sri Lanka: 1st Test, day 3, FanCode, 9.30 a.m.

IPL 2022: Star Sports 1 (SD & HD) & Hotstar, 7.30 p.m.

Premier League: SS Select 1 (SD & HD) & Hotstar, 12.30 a.m. (Wednesday)

IN BRIEF

Mavs, Celtics advance as Bucks and Suns exit

LOS ANGELES

Luka Doncic led a stunning Dallas Mavericks' 123-90 rout of top-seeded Phoenix Suns while Boston Celtics eliminated defending champion Milwaukee Bucks 109-81 in NBA playoffs on Sunday.

The results: EC: Boston 109 bt Milwaukee 81 (Boston wins series 4-3); **WC:** Phoenix 90 lost to Dallas 123 (Dallas wins series 4-3). AFP

National hockey junior championships

CHENNAI

The 12th Hockey India-National junior men's championships will be held at the SDAT Stadium, Krishna Nagar in Kovilpatti from May 17 to 29. Ms. K. Kanimozhi, MP of Thoothukudi Constituency and Chairman of Organising Committee, will preside over the inaugural function.

Paulo Dybala set to leave Juventus

TURIN

Paulo Dybala on Sunday confirmed his departure from the Serie A giant Juventus FC at the end of the season. The Argentina international also announced that he will make his home farewell in Turin against Lazio on Monday. "It is difficult to find the right words to greet you," Dybala addressed fans in a statement posted to his social media platforms. ANI

Suarez, Herrera part ways with Atletico

MADRID

Luis Suarez will leave Atletico Madrid at the end of the season, the La Liga club announced on Sunday. The Rojiblancos revealed the departure of Suarez and Hector Herrera before its match against Sevilla. Midfielder Herrera will also exit this summer as he is set to join the Houston Dynamo. ANI

UP wins sub-junior men's hockey National title

PANAJI

Uttar Pradesh won the 12th Hockey India sub-junior men's National championship 2022 after defeating Jharkhand 3-0 in the final on Sunday. Shahrukh Ali (10, 13, 47) scored all three field goals in the first and final quarters of the match for Uttar Pradesh. ANI

Inter keeps title race alive for final week

Milan still holds pole position; Everton loses again; Sevilla secures top-four spot

EURO LEAGUES

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
MILAN

Lautaro Martinez ensured the Serie A title race will head into the final week of the season on Sunday with a brace in Inter Milan's 3-1 win at Cagliari to stay two points behind leader AC Milan.

Reigning champion Inter had to win to have any hope of retaining its league crown after Milan beat Atalanta 2-0 earlier in the day.

And goals in each half from Mattia Darmian's and Martinez ensured that Simone Inzaghi's side would push its local rivals down to the wire with a hard-fought victory in Sardinia.

Stefano Pioli's side has the better of the season's two Milan derbies meaning that if the two teams finish level on points it will be Milan which takes the title.

It holds the advantage over Inter thanks to strikes from Rafael Leao and Theo Hernandez which sealed its win over Atalanta in front of a packed San Siro.

Star performer: Lautaro Martinez scores Inter's third against Cagliari. • AFP

Everton missed the chance to secure its place in the Premier League for another season after having two men sent off in losing 3-2 at home to Brentford on Sunday.

Everton stays two points above the bottom three and has two games remaining, against Crystal Palace at home on Thursday and Arsenal away next Sunday.

Sevilla needed a late equaliser in a 1-1 draw at Atlético Madrid to clinch the final Champions League spot in the Spanish league.

Barcelona secured second place, and a spot in the lucrative Spanish Super Cup in Saudi Arabia, after a 0-0 draw at Getafe, which escaped relegation.

The results: Serie A: AC Milan 2 (Leao 56, Hernandez 75) bt Atalanta 0; Cagliari 1 (Lykogiannis 54) lost to Inter Milan 3 (Darmian 25, Martinez 51, 84).

Premier League: Everton 2 (Calvert-Lewin 10, Richarlison 45+2-pen) lost to Brentford 3 (Coleman 37-og, Wissa 62, Henry 64).

La Liga: Atletico Madrid 1 (Gimenez 30) drew with Sevilla 1 (En-Nesyri 85); Celta Vigo 1 (Suarez 9) bt Elche 0; Athletic Bilbao 2 (Berenguer 33, Villalibre 79) bt Osasuna 0; Levante 3 (Duarte 53, Roger 74, Morales 90+5) bt Alaves 1 (Joselu 36).

Getafe 0 drew with Barcelona 0; Cadiz 1 (Sobrino 36) drew with Real Madrid 1 (Mariano 5); Real Betis 2 (Juanmi 14, 88) bt Granada 0.

Villarreal 1 (Coquelin 43) lost to Real Sociedad 2 (Isak 56, Zubimendi 73); Real Mallorca 2 (Muriqi 13, Abdon Prats 90+2) bt Rayo Vallecano 1 (Ciss 60).

Sift wins 3-position gold

SHOOTING

SPORTS BUREAU

Sift Kaur Samra beat Julie Johannessen of Norway 17-9 to win the 50-metre rifle 3-position event in the Junior World Cup shooting in Suhl, Germany, on Monday.

In the junior men's 25-metre rapid fire pistol, Anish Bhanwala was beaten to the gold 32-28 by Yan Chesnel. There was a silver for India in the junior men's 50-metre rifle 3-position team event.

Italy beat India 16-12, pulling ahead from the second stage after India topped qualification with a 16-point margin.

The results (junior): 50m rifle 3-position: Men: 1. Italy (Michele Bernardi, Edoardo Bonazzi, Danilo Dennis Sollazzo) 16 (861) 1299; 2. India (Pankaj Mukheja, Shivam Dabas, Avinash Yadav) 12 (859) 1315; 3. Germany17 (853) 1307; 4. Poland 13 (854) 1292.

Women: 1. Sift Kaur Samra 17 (405.4) 588; 2. Julie Johannessen (Nor) 9 (409.7) 583; 3. Ashi Chouksey 405.2 (588); 21. Mansi Kathait 580.

25m rapid fire pistol: Men: 1. Yan Chesnel (Fra) 32 (15) 571; 2. Anish Bhanwala 28 (18) 584; 3. Vijayveer Sidhu 18 (13) 579; 4. Markus Lehner (Ger) 10 (12) 561; Adarsh Singh 11 (574); Sameer 562.

BENGALURU ROUND-UP

Shourya shocks Rithik

Local lad Shourya Kallambella shocked top seed Rithik Jeyanth of Tamil Nadu 6-4, 6-3 in the boys' first round of the SAT Sports-AITA CS7 under-14 tennis tournament here on Monday.

Reds United pip Misaka

Reds United FC edged out Misaka FC 1-0 in the BDFA C-division quarterfinal football league here on Monday.

The results (quarterfinals): Reds United FC bt Misaka FC 1-0; Mysore Vijaya Nagara FC bt Play Smart FC 1-1(5-4 via penalties); Al Fateh FC bt Mahesh Raj United 2-1.

Praful, Kareena on target

Praful Aravind and Kareena Alexandra won the archery (30 meters) boys' and girls' events in the State Mini Olympic Games here on Monday. In the girls' hockey event, Hassan whipped Dharwad 8-0.

Novak Djokovic extends record at the top

Iga Swiatek will be French Open top seed after consolidating World No. 1 spot

TENNIS

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
PARIS

Novak Djokovic extended his record at the top of the ATP rankings to 370 weeks on Monday while Rafael Nadal drops down a place to No. 5.

The Spaniard was knocked out of the Italian Open in the last 16 and is leapfrogged by the Greek Stefanos Tsitsipas who made it all the way to the final where he was turned over in straight sets by an inspired Djokovic.

The Serb, who claimed his sixth Italian Open title, has now spent 60 weeks more at number one than the next man on the list Roger Federer (310). Nadal is sixth on the all-time list with 209.

With the French Open starting on Sunday, Djokovic is guaranteed top seeding at Roland Garros and will retain the top spot for at least another two weeks.

Iga Swiatek, who won her fifth tournament in a row in Rome on Sunday, will go into the French Open as top seed after consolidating her place as World No. 1 on Monday.

The 20-year-old Pole, who won the title at Roland Garros in 2020, is over 2,000 points ahead of defending French Open champion Barbora Krejcikova in the new WTA rankings.

Tunisia's Madrid Open champion Ons Jabeur, who lost to Swiatek in the Italian Open final, climbed to a career-high sixth.

Numero unos: Djokovic and Swiatek with their prize from the Italian Open. • GETTY IMAGES, REUTERS

The rankings (top 10): Men: 1. Novak Djokovic, 2. Daniil Medvedev, 3. Alexander Zverev, 4. Stefanos Tsitsipas, 5. Rafael Nadal, 6. Carlos Alcaraz, 7. Andrey Rublev, 8. Casper Ruud, 9. Felix Auger-Aliassime, 10. Matteo Berrettini.

Women: 1. Iga Swiatek, 2. Barbora Krejcikova, 3. Paula Badosa, 4. Maria Sakkari, 5. Anett Kontaveit, 6. Ons Jabeur, 7. Aryna Sabalenka, 8. Karolina Pliskova, 9. Danielle Collins, 10. Garbine Muguruza.

Leclerc crashes Lauda's historic F1 Ferrari

ASSOCIATED PRESS
MONACO

Formula one championship leader Charles Leclerc again crashed in hometown Monaco, this time in a historic Ferrari.

Leclerc was driving a 1974 Ferrari once piloted by three-time F1 champion Niki Lauda in a demonstration run on Sunday at the 2022 Monaco Historic Grand Prix.

He went deep into La Rascasse corner, lost control of the rear of the car and backed into the barriers.

The contact damaged the car's rear wing and Leclerc, a Monaco resident, seemed to intimate he had a problem with the pedals.

He has two wins through five F1 races this season.

Karnataka to meet Odisha in final

HOCKEY

SPORTS BUREAU

Karnataka rode on some astute defending and two plucky goals from P.C. Nisha and B.N. Poojitha to stun former champion and last edition's runner-up Haryana 2-0 and move into its maiden final at the 12th Hockey India Senior Women's National championship in Bhopal on Monday.

This was also Karnataka's first win over its more-fancied opponent, which has always finished in the top-four, in three meetings in the competition. The last time the two teams met in 2020, Haryana had won 8-0.

After a goalless first half in the semifinal with both teams more keen on sizing up the opposition, Karnataka broke the deadlock through Nisha's well-placed strike soon after resumption of play in the third quarter.

Haryana tried to fight back and even had numerical superiority for a while in the fourth quarter but could not make it count. Instead, a penalty stroke in the 53rd minute to Karnataka, despite being a player down and against the run of play, was converted by Poojitha to firm its grip on the game.

It will now take on Odisha, which firmly beat neighbour and fierce rival Jharkhand 5-0 in the other semifinal.

Midfield action: Karnataka and Haryana players (in white) fight for possession on Monday. • A.M. FARUQUI

The results (semifinals): Karnataka 2 (Nisha, Poojitha) bt Haryana 0; Odisha 5 (Rojita Kujur 3, Bharati Ekka, Janhabi Pradhan) bt Jharkhand 0.

Vinesh, Sakshi, Anshu in CWG squad

Vinesh Phogat. • FILE PHOTO

Sakshi Malik. • FILE PHOTO

Anshu Malik. • FILE PHOTO

WRESTLING

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
KOLKATA

World championships bronze medallist Vinesh Phogat, Olympics bronze medallist Sakshi Malik and Worlds silver medallist Anshu Malik were the most prominent names among the women wrestlers who won the selection trials to make it to the Commonwealth Games bound Indian side.

In the trials held at Lucknow on Monday, two-time Commonwealth Games champion Vinesh – who had a right elbow surgery last year after her disappointing performance in the Tokyo Olympics – defeated four wrestlers, including Antim with a score line of 3-3 via criteria in the final, to stake her claim in 53kg on her return.

Sakshi beat Sanju Devi, Kusum, young Olympian Sonam Malik and old rival Manisha (7-3 in the final) to get selected in 62kg.

No problems

Anshu had no problems in getting the better of her opponents to take the 57kg slot.

Divya Kakran, a Commonwealth Games and Asian Games bronze medallist and a former Asian champion, also returned to action after her marriage and defeated Sonika Hooda, Naina, Radhika and Nisha Dahiya (10-0 in the final) to get picked in 68kg.

"This is a strong squad. We expect medals in every weight. We are capable of winning at least four gold medals," said chief coach Jitender Yadav.

The squad: 50kg: Pooja Gehlot, **53kg:** Vinesh Phogat, **57kg:** Anshu Malik, **62kg:** Sakshi Malik, **68kg:** Divya Kakran, **76kg:** Pooja.

Saurav Ghosal advances

SQUASH

SPORTS BUREAU

Saurav Ghosal of India defeated Todd Harrity of USA 11-8, 11-8, 11-7 in a men's second round match of the PSA World squash championships in Cairo on Monday.

Earlier, on Sunday night, Mahesh Mangaonkar lost to the top seeded Paul Coll of New Zealand 5-11, 3-11, 9-11 in another second round tie.

Joshna Chinappa will take on Rowan Elarby of Egypt in the women's third round on Tuesday.